

# Dark Matter and Dark Sectors: Lecture 2



Kingdom of Morocco  
Ministry of Higher Education,  
Scientific Research and Innovation

## THE EIGHTH BIENNIAL AFRICAN SCHOOL OF FUNDAMENTAL PHYSICS AND APPLICATIONS (ASP2024)



Co-organized by Cadi Ayyad University and Mohammed V University  
at Faculty of Science Semlalia, Marrakesh, Morocco

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### ASP MISSION

To increase capacity development in fundamental physics and related applications in Africa. The ASP has evolved to be much more than a school. It is a program of actions with directed ethos toward physics as an engine for development in Africa

### SCIENTIFIC PROGRAM

► TOPICS



**Gopolang Mohlabeng**  
Simon Fraser University

SFU

# Recap: lecture 1

- We have much astrophysical evidence that dark matter exists
- We do not know what it is, but we know what properties it must have and none of the SM particles fit the profile
- We know that:
  1. It must be stable
  2. Non relativistic
  3. Must not interact via SM charges
- Many possibilities of what DM could be
- Very well motivated possibility called WIMP

## Late 1970s - Vera Rubin



Image: Carnegie Institute for Science

**First scientist** to measure star speeds with very high accuracy

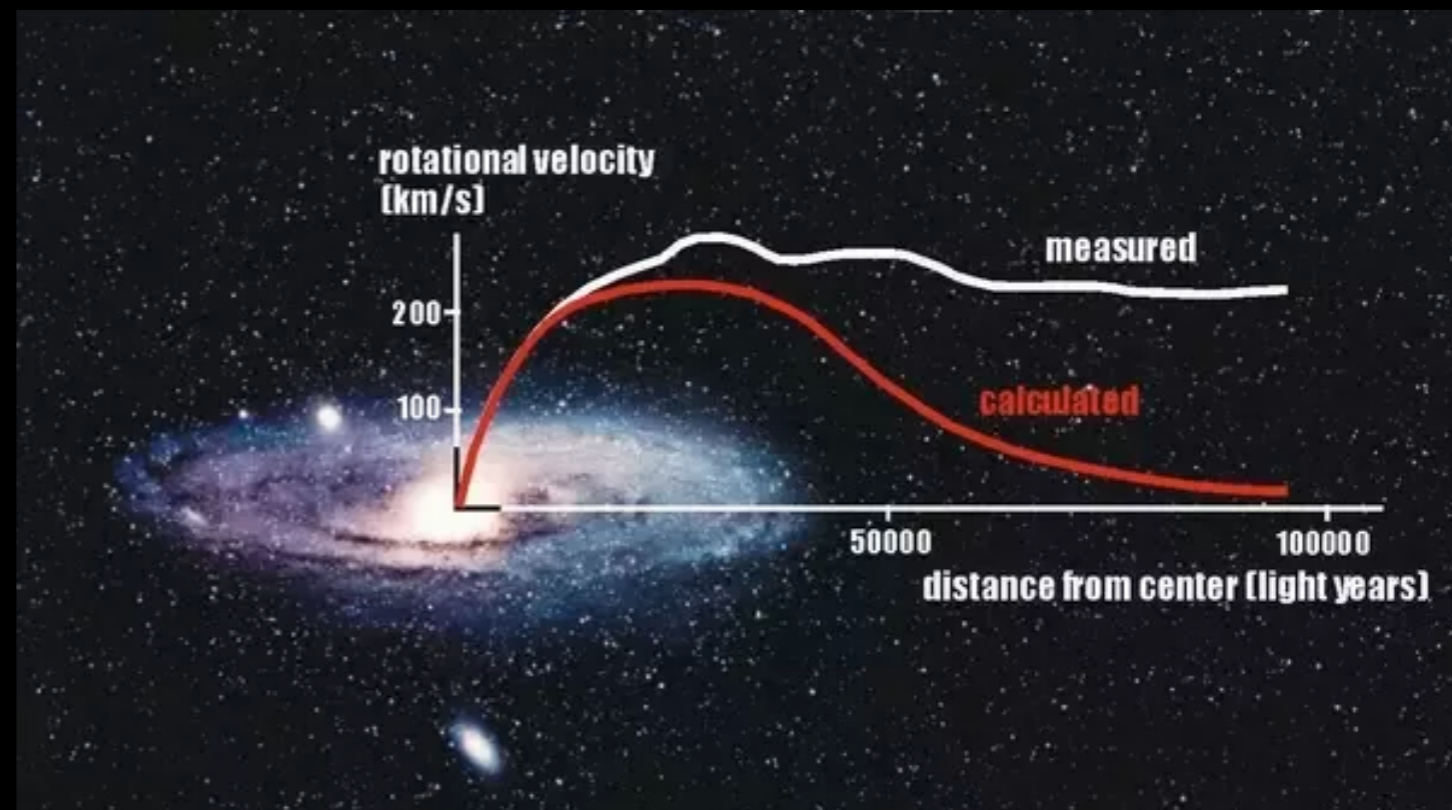


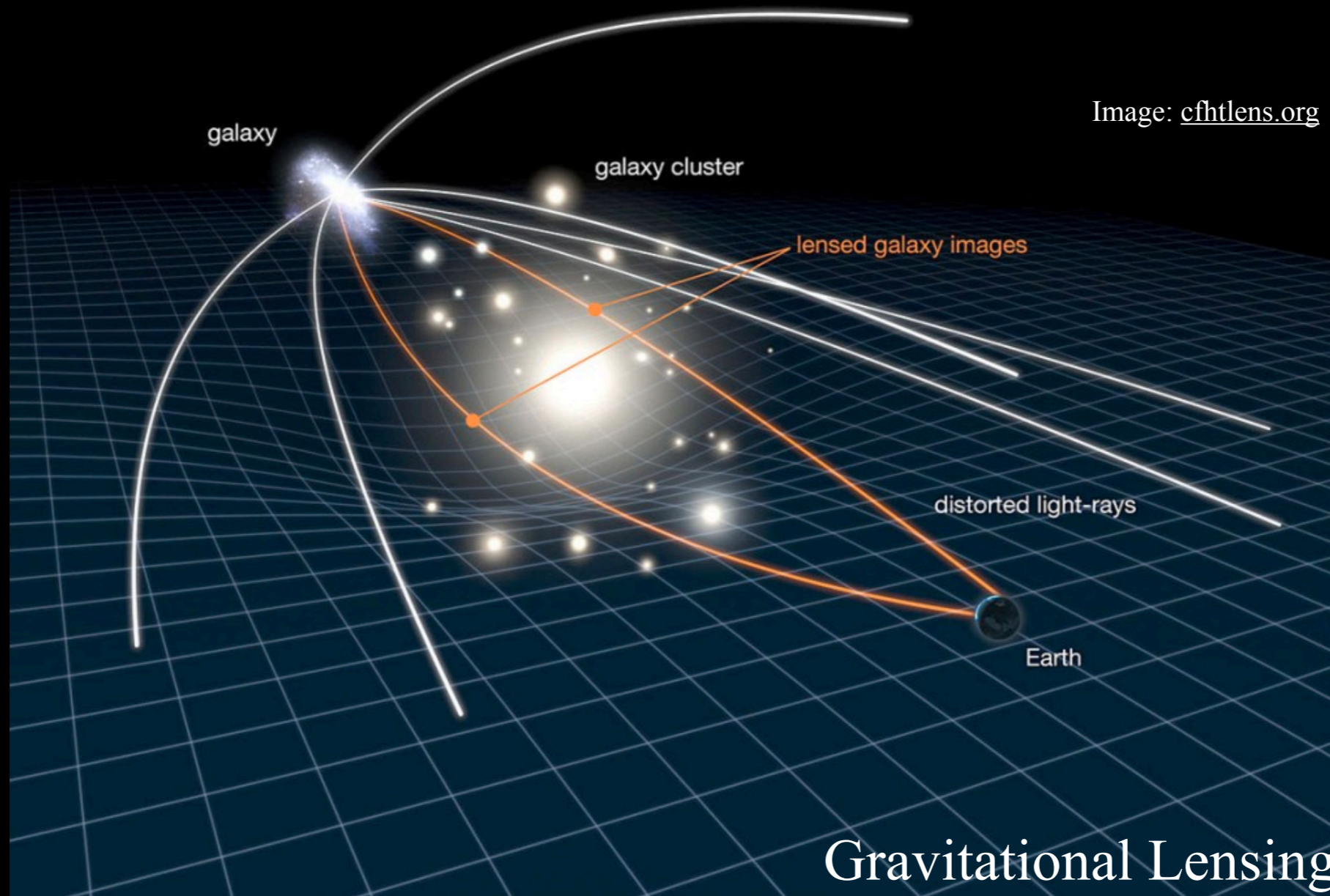
Image: [quora.com](https://www.quora.com)

$$\frac{mv^2}{r} = \frac{GMm}{r^2}$$

$$v = \sqrt{\frac{GM}{r}}$$

## Lets look at scales larger than galaxies

Gravity can also bend light coming from distant objects



Light from galaxy is bent by gravitational field of galaxy cluster

# What do galaxy clusters tell us about DM?

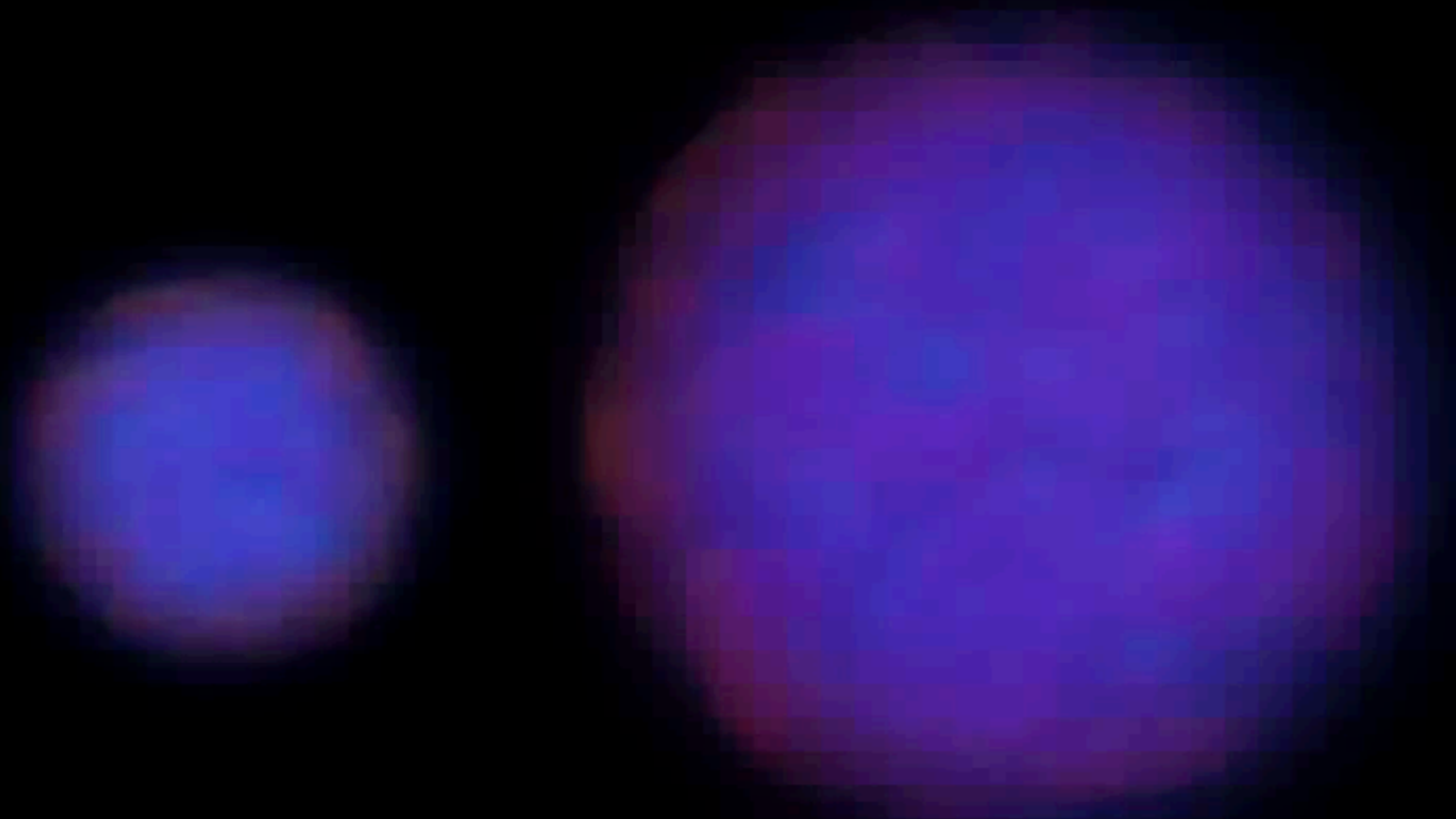


Image: gfycat.com



Visible Matter

Dark Matter  
Gravitational  
Lens

## DARK MATTER

Most of the universe can't even be bothered to interact with you.

Image: yumpu.com

# What do cosmological observations tell us?

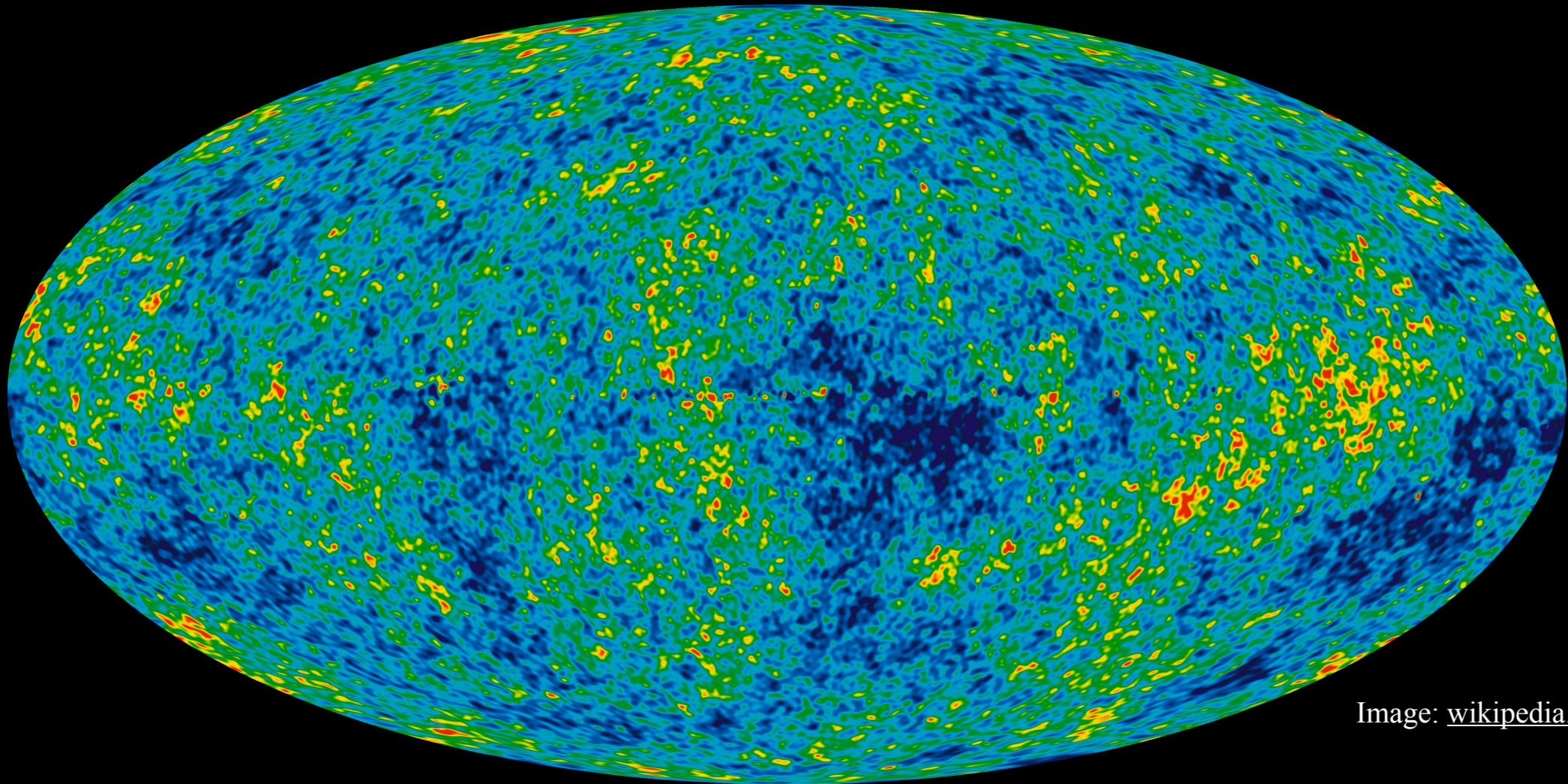


Image: [wikipedia.org](http://wikipedia.org)

## Epoch of recombination

- Neutral atoms were formed, photons could move freely since they were no longer locked to charged particles
- These free moving photons reach us today

# What do cosmological observations tell us?

CMB Power Spectrum -  
gives cosmologists a way to mathematically understand fluctuations

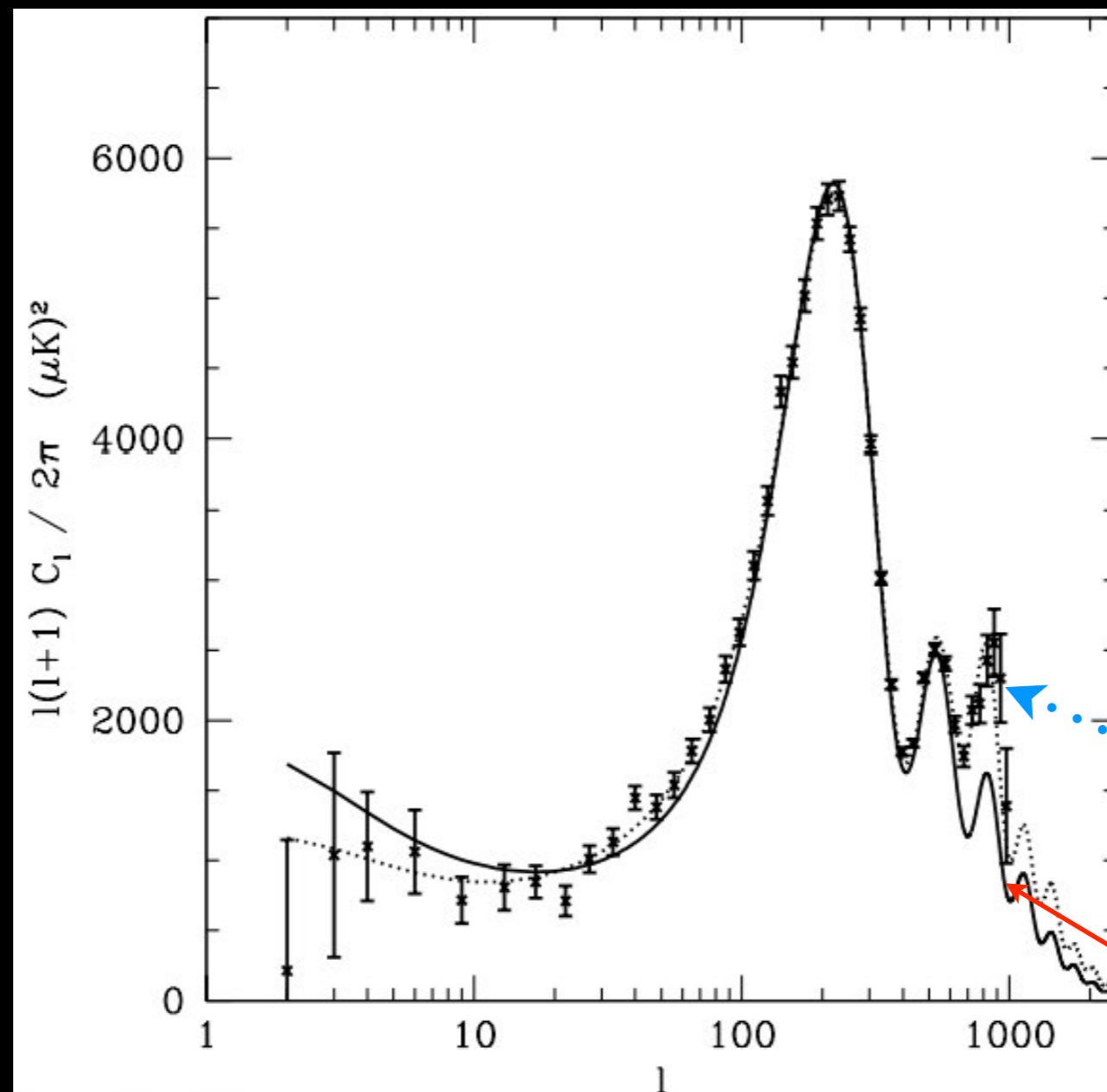


Image: Sean Carroll

Dark Matter

MOND -  
Modification of Gravity

Evidence shows dark matter exists at largest scales

# What is Dark Matter made of?

**We simply have no idea.**

**We DO know:**

- It must be cold (non-relativistic) at the time of structure formation
- It must be super long-lived or completely stable
- It must be some new state lying beyond the SM

Non-EM interacting

Non-QCD interacting

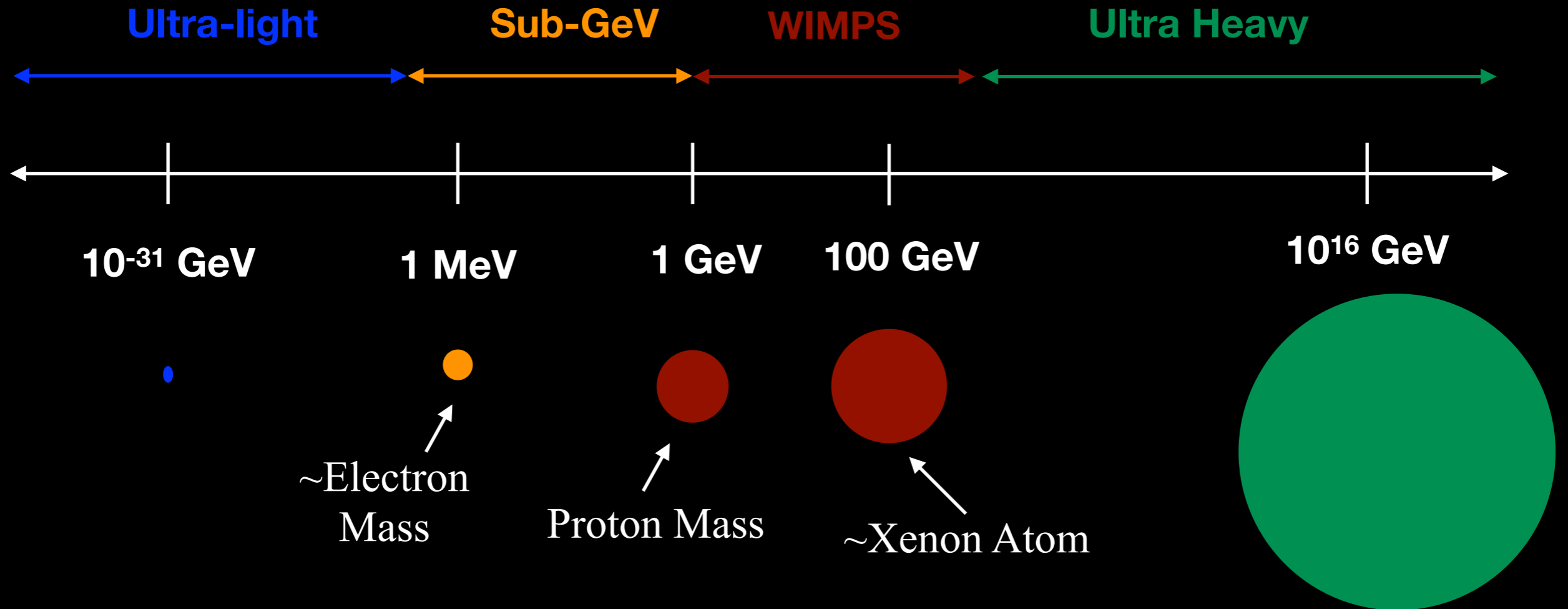
Dark Matter should be described by a quantum field corresponding to a definite spin, uncharged under  $U(1)_{EM}$  or  $SU(3)_C$ .

(So: no tree-level interactions with gluons or photons).

- It **may** interact with the SM through some new force



# Range of possibilities is VAST



Primordial Blackholes - much heavier than Ultra heavy

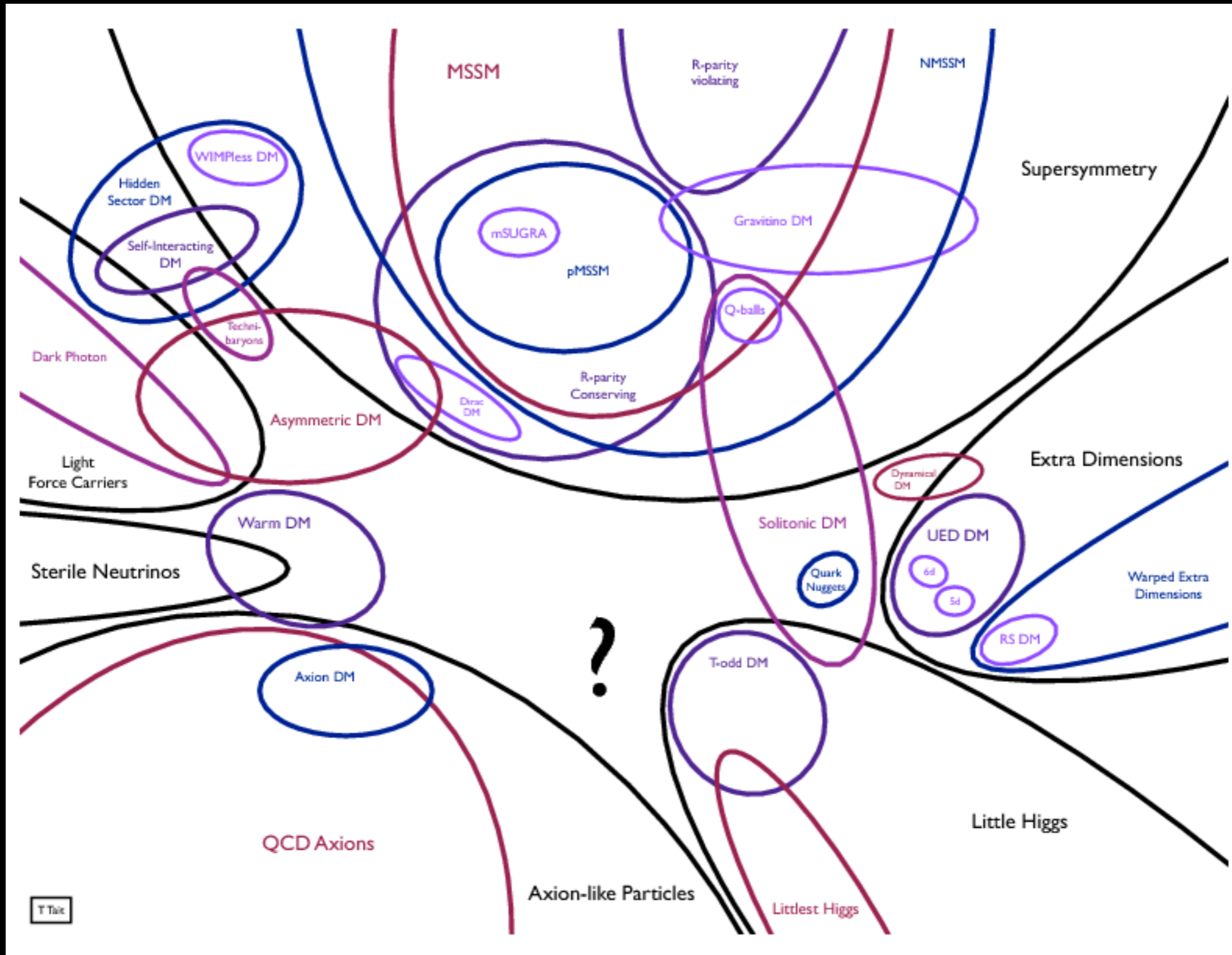
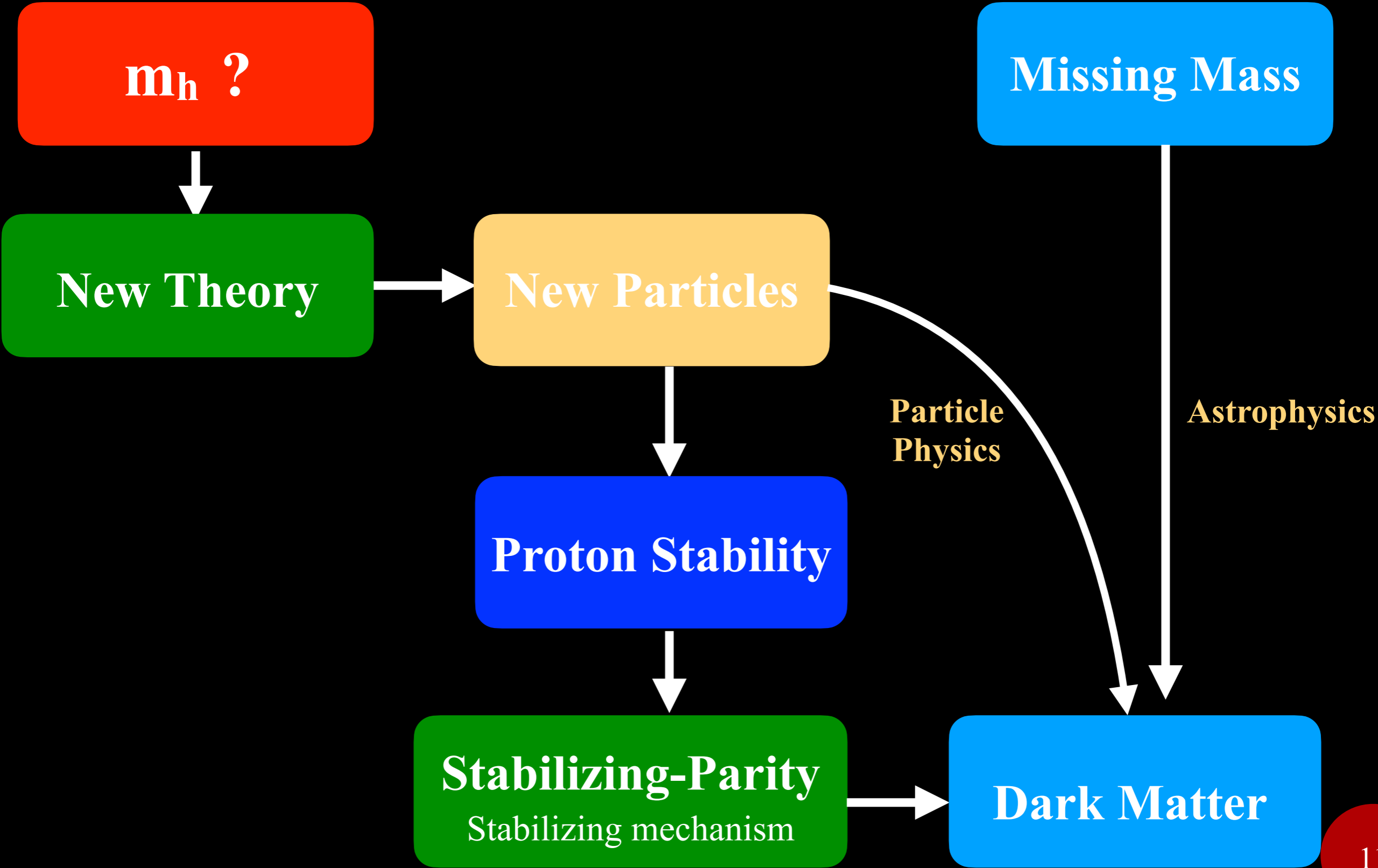


Image: [ps.uci.edu](http://ps.uci.edu)

Range of possibilities is VAST

# Solutions of hierarchy problem



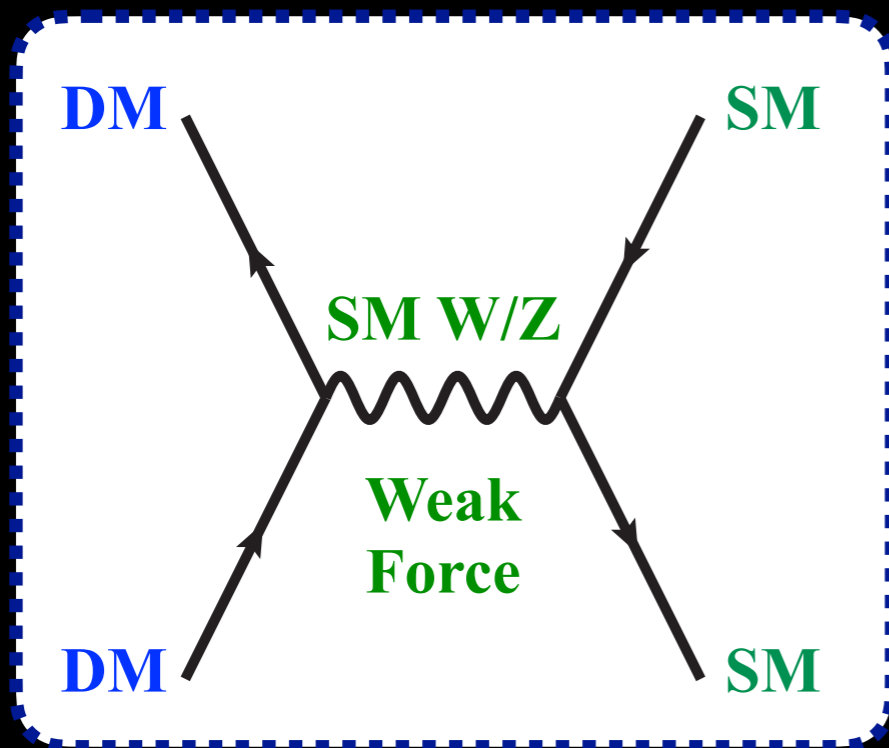
# Solving the Hierarchy problem resulted in a perfect class of dark matter candidates called

## Weakly-Interacting Massive Particles

“Electroweak” interactions ( $W^\pm, Z, h$ )

“weak-scale” mass  
1 - 10 000 GeV

Explains: Why so much dark matter around



Dark matter annihilation

Observed **amount of dark matter** today

‘Relic Density’

$$\Omega h^2 \sim \frac{0.1 \text{ pb}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle}$$

Weak scale annihilation rate

# **In this lecture we will cover**

**1. How is dark matter produced in the early universe?**

**How do we get its relic abundance?**

**2. How do we search for it today?**

**In the sky (Indirect detection)**

**In accelerator experiments**

**Underground (Direct detection)**

# Relic density of dark matter

Expansion rate of the universe described by Hubble rate  $H(z)$

In the standard model of cosmology called Lambda Cold Dark Matter ( $\Lambda$ CDM), Hubble rate is

$$H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_{rad} (1+z)^4 + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

**Redshift-** gives us an idea  
of cosmological time

# Relic density of dark matter

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**Hubble constant** - standard constant to quantify universe expansion

# Relic density of dark matter

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**Total matter in the universe -**  
includes SM and dark matter

$$\Omega_m = \Omega_c + \Omega_b$$



# Relic density of dark matter

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**Total amount of radiation in the universe - relativistic free particles like photons, neutrinos**

# Relic density of dark matter

Expansion rate of the universe described by Hubble rate  $H(z)$

In the standard model of cosmology called Lambda Cold Dark Matter ( $\Lambda$ CDM), Hubble rate is

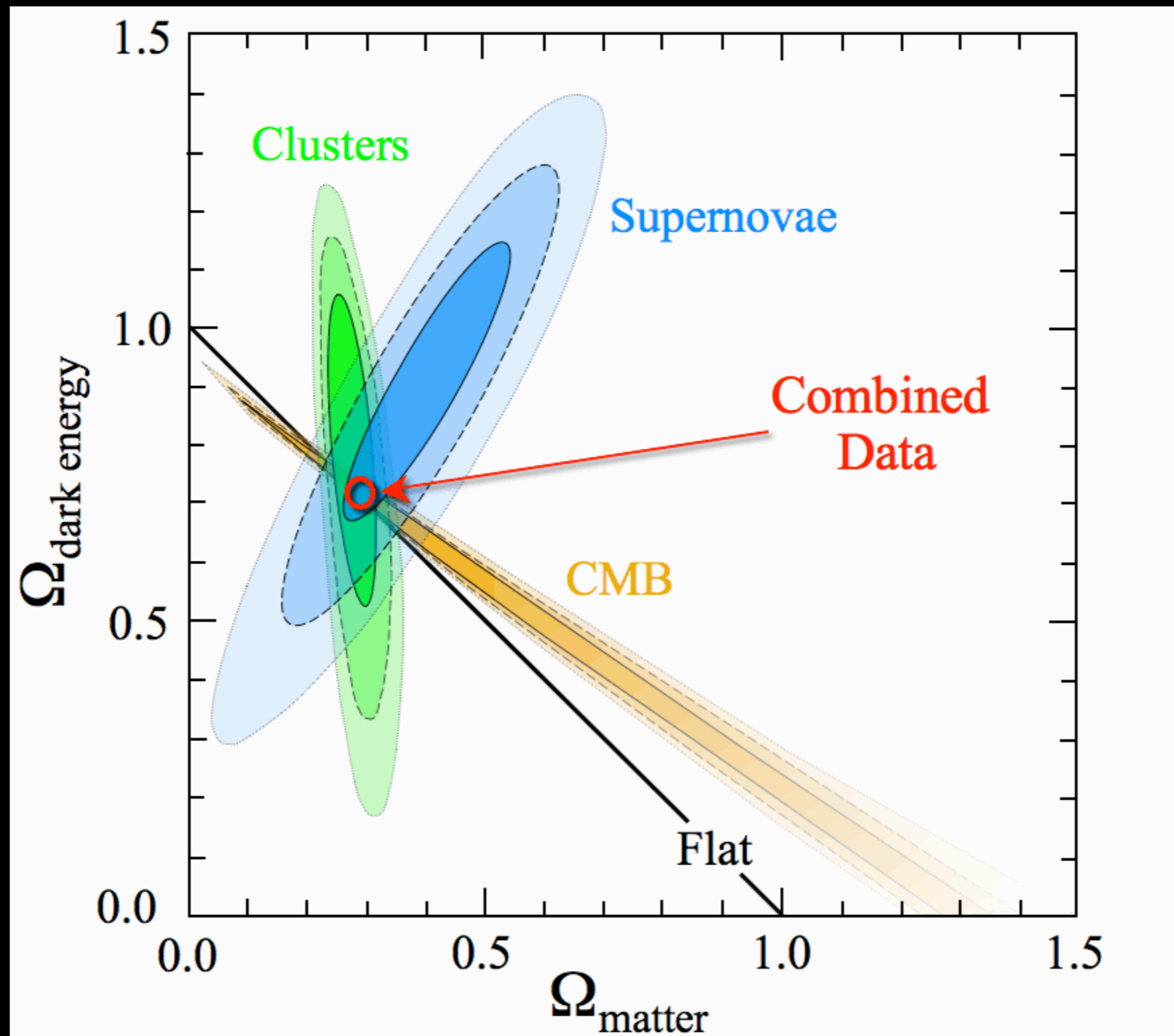
$$H(z) = H_0 \sqrt{\Omega_m (1+z)^3 + \Omega_{rad} (1+z)^4 + \Omega_\Lambda}$$

**Dark energy density -  
phenomenon making  
universe expand**



# Relic density of dark matter

Using combined data from a variety of telescopes measuring billions of galaxies, CMB and supernovae, we can fit those parameters.



(See lectures by Prof. de Naurois)

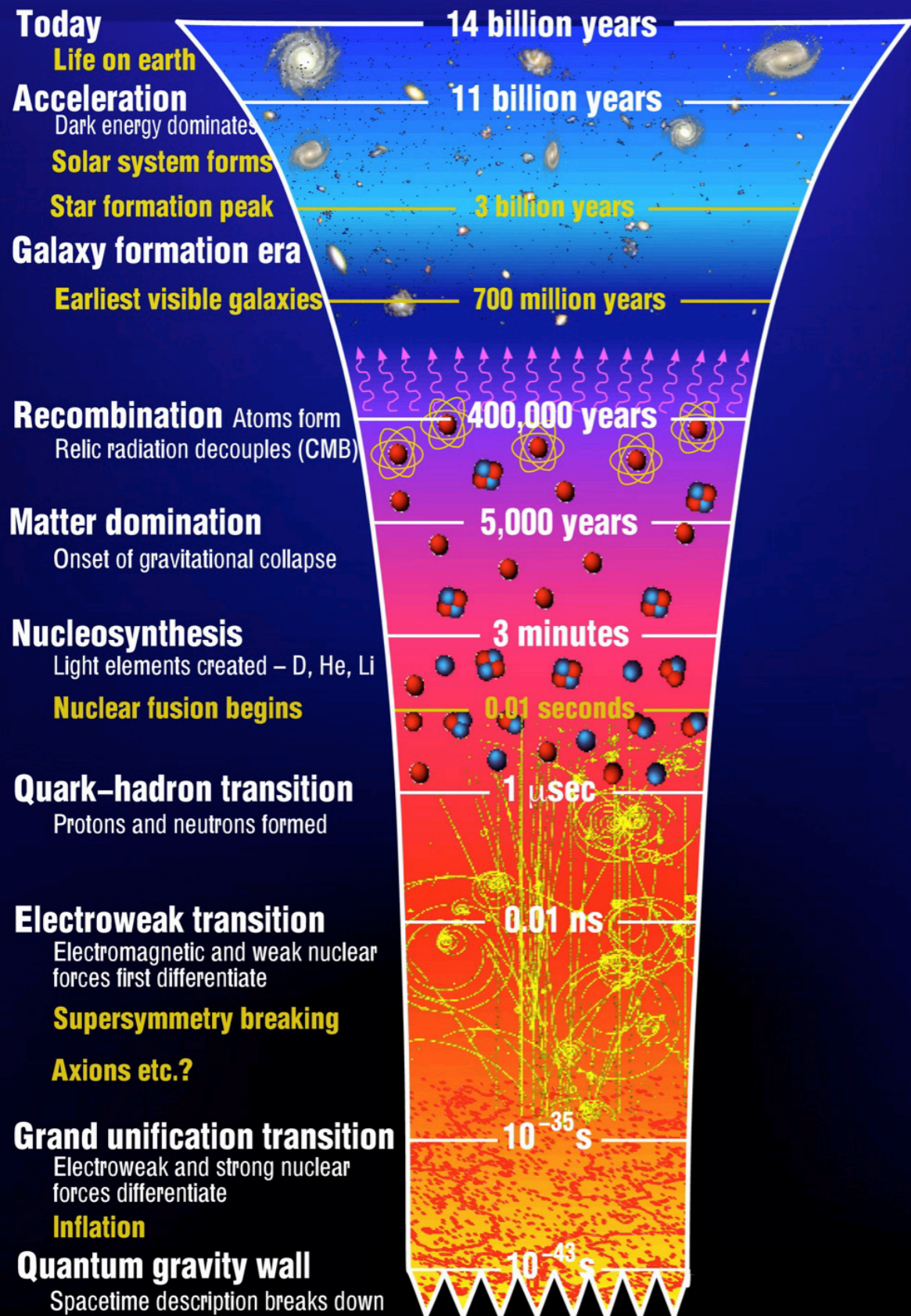
# Relic density of dark matter

Using combined data from a variety of telescopes measuring billions of galaxies, CMB and supernovae, we can fit those parameters.

Parameter	TT+lowP+lensing 68% limits	TT,TE,EE+lowP+lensing+ext 68% limits
$n_s$ . . . . .	$0.9677 \pm 0.0060$	$0.9667 \pm 0.0040$
$H_0$ . . . . .	$67.81 \pm 0.92$	$67.74 \pm 0.46$
$\Omega_\Lambda$ . . . . .	$0.692 \pm 0.012$	$0.6911 \pm 0.0062$
$\Omega_m$ . . . . .	$0.308 \pm 0.012$	$0.3089 \pm 0.0062$
$\Omega_b h^2$ . . . . .	$0.02226 \pm 0.00023$	$0.02230 \pm 0.00014$
$\Omega_c h^2$ . . . . .	$0.1186 \pm 0.0020$	$0.1188 \pm 0.0010$
$\sigma_8$ . . . . .	$0.8149 \pm 0.0093$	$0.8159 \pm 0.0086$
$z_{re}$ . . . . .	$8.8^{+1.7}_{-1.4}$	$8.8^{+1.2}_{-1.1}$
Age/Gyr . . . . .	$13.799 \pm 0.038$	$13.799 \pm 0.021$

Dark matter relic density from cosmological data

# What is Relic density?



- Amount of dark matter left over today from the hot dense plasma after Universe expands and cools

- Amount of DM referred to as **relic** - i.e. relic of the early universe

- **Relic density** can also tell us how **DM** was produced in early universe

# Why is Relic Density Important?

Any method of DM production in early Universe must match cosmological measurements of relic density

Any theory predicting that dark matter is produced via a certain method, must match relic density from cosmological observations

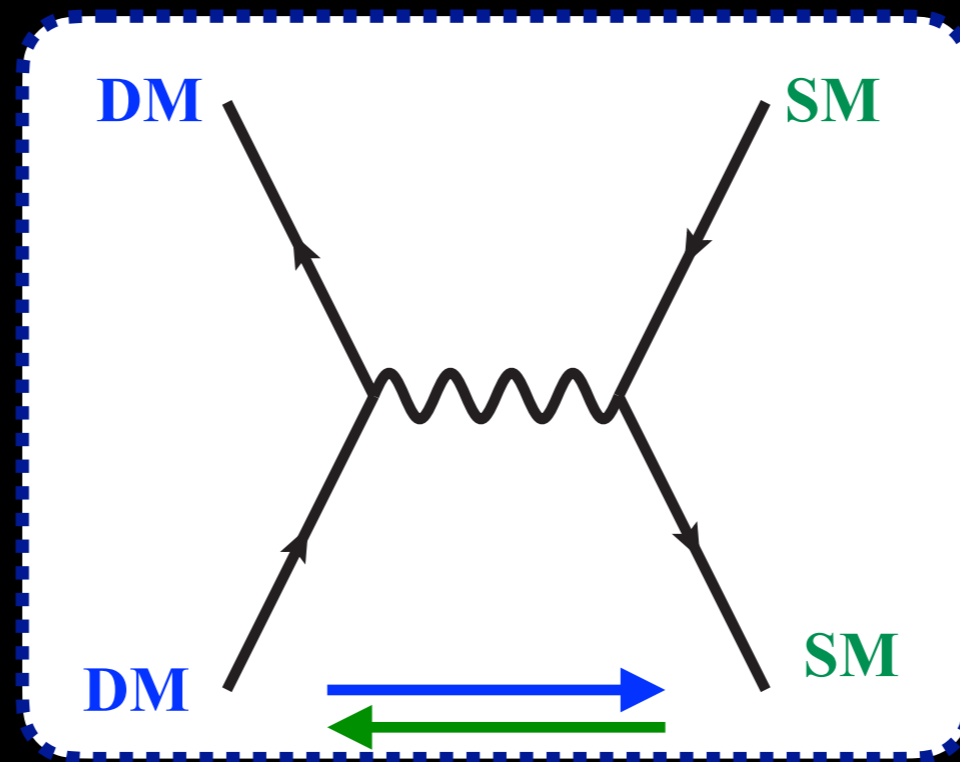
$$\Omega_c h^2 \sim 0.12$$

This is important because it allows the identification of theory parameter space that is interesting and predictive, giving us a clue where to start searching for dark matter

# Dark matter production in the early universe

## e.g. Thermal Freeze-out

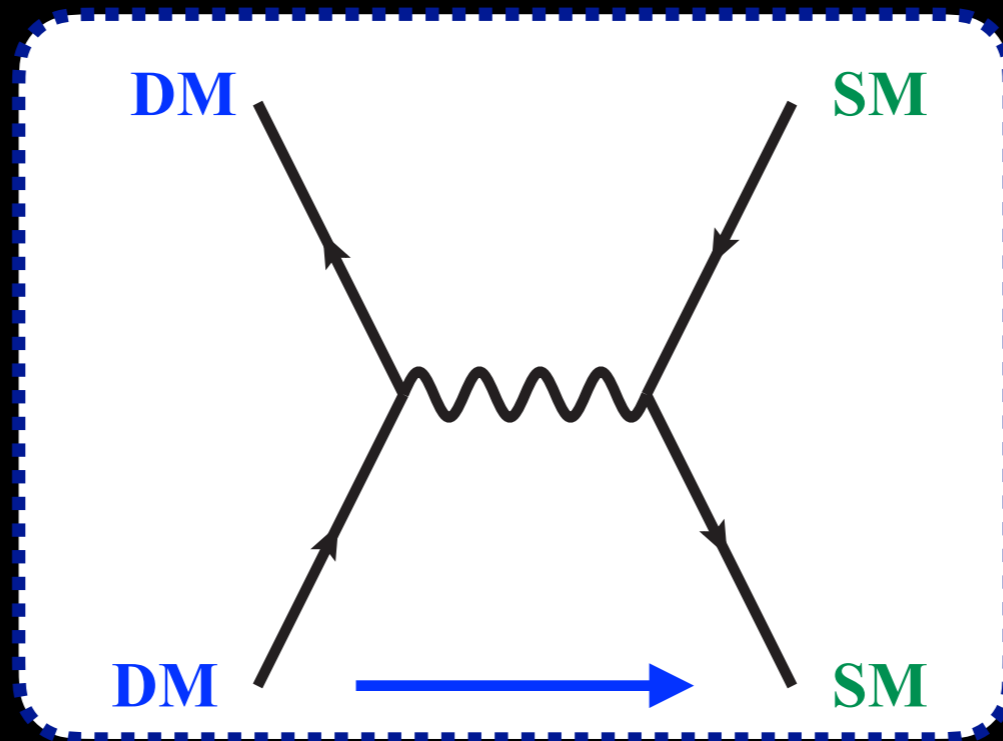
- After big bang, universe is in hot dense plasma of dark sector & SM particles. Plasma is hot enough that



DM and SM are in **thermal equilibrium**

i.e. both particles can be explained by one common temperature

- As universe expands and cools SM cannot convert to DM anymore, only forward process occurs



- As universe keeps expanding, two DM particles cannot find each other to annihilate into SM particles
- **Dark matter has now frozen out and relic number density is set**



# Evolution of dark matter number density as Universe expands is given by **Boltzmann equation**

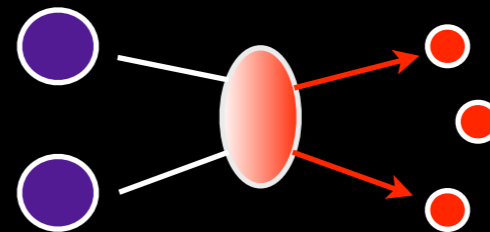
Dark matter  
number density

$$\frac{dn_{\chi}}{dt} + 3Hn_{\chi} = - \langle \sigma v \rangle [n_{\chi}^2 - (n_{\chi}^{eq})^2]$$

Hubble Friction

Annihilation

$$H \sim g_* \frac{T^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}}$$



Describes DM number  
as universe expands

Evolution of dark matter number density as Universe expands is given by **Boltzmann equation**

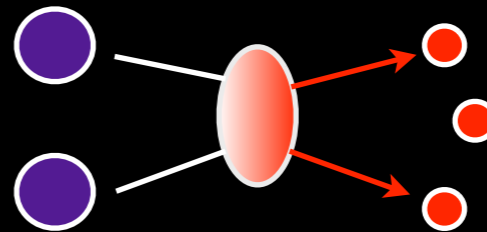
Particles physics enters here

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = - \langle \sigma v \rangle [n_\chi^2 - (n_\chi^{eq})^2]$$

Hubble Friction

$$H \sim g_* \frac{T^2}{M_{\text{Pl}}}$$

Annihilation



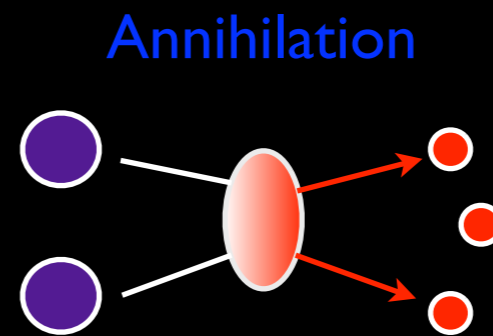
**Thermally averaged annihilation cross-section:** probability that two DM particles traveling in some velocity distribution will find each other and annihilate into SM particles.

Evolution of dark matter number density as Universe expands is given by **Boltzmann equation**

$$\frac{dn_\chi}{dt} + 3Hn_\chi = - \langle \sigma v \rangle [n_\chi^2 - (n_\chi^{eq})^2]$$

Hubble Friction

$$H \sim g_* \frac{T^2}{M_{Pl}}$$



DM number density at equilibrium, given by

$$n_\chi^{eq} = g \left( \frac{mT}{2\pi} \right)^{3/2} e^{-m/T}$$

Particles physics enters here

Rewrite **Boltzmann equation** as

$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{x \langle \sigma v \rangle s}{H(m)} (Y^2 - Y_{eq}^2)$$

Comoving

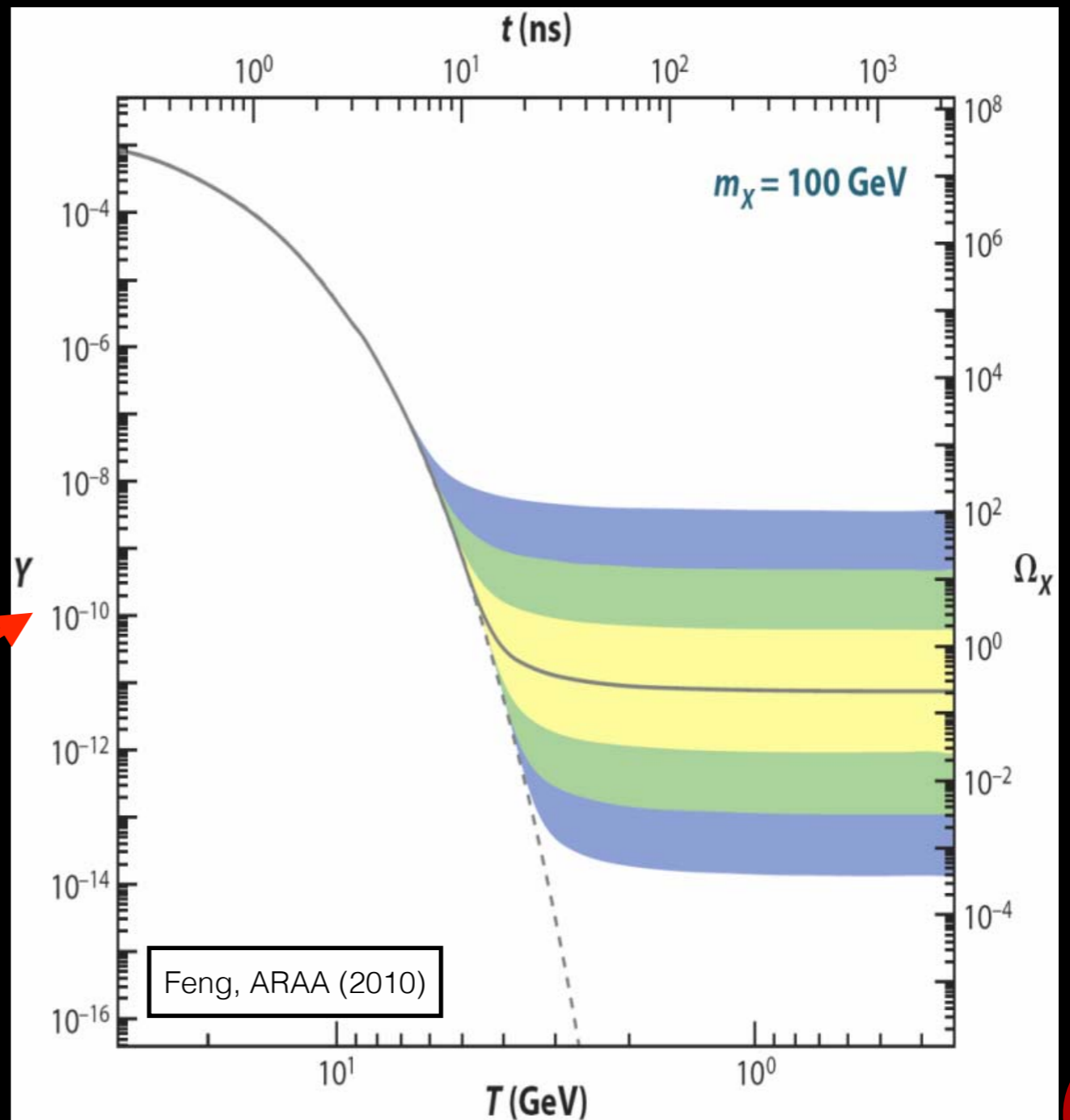
number density is

$$Y = \frac{n_\chi}{s}$$

temperature of the universe

$$x = \frac{m}{T}$$

**Solution of Boltzmann equation**

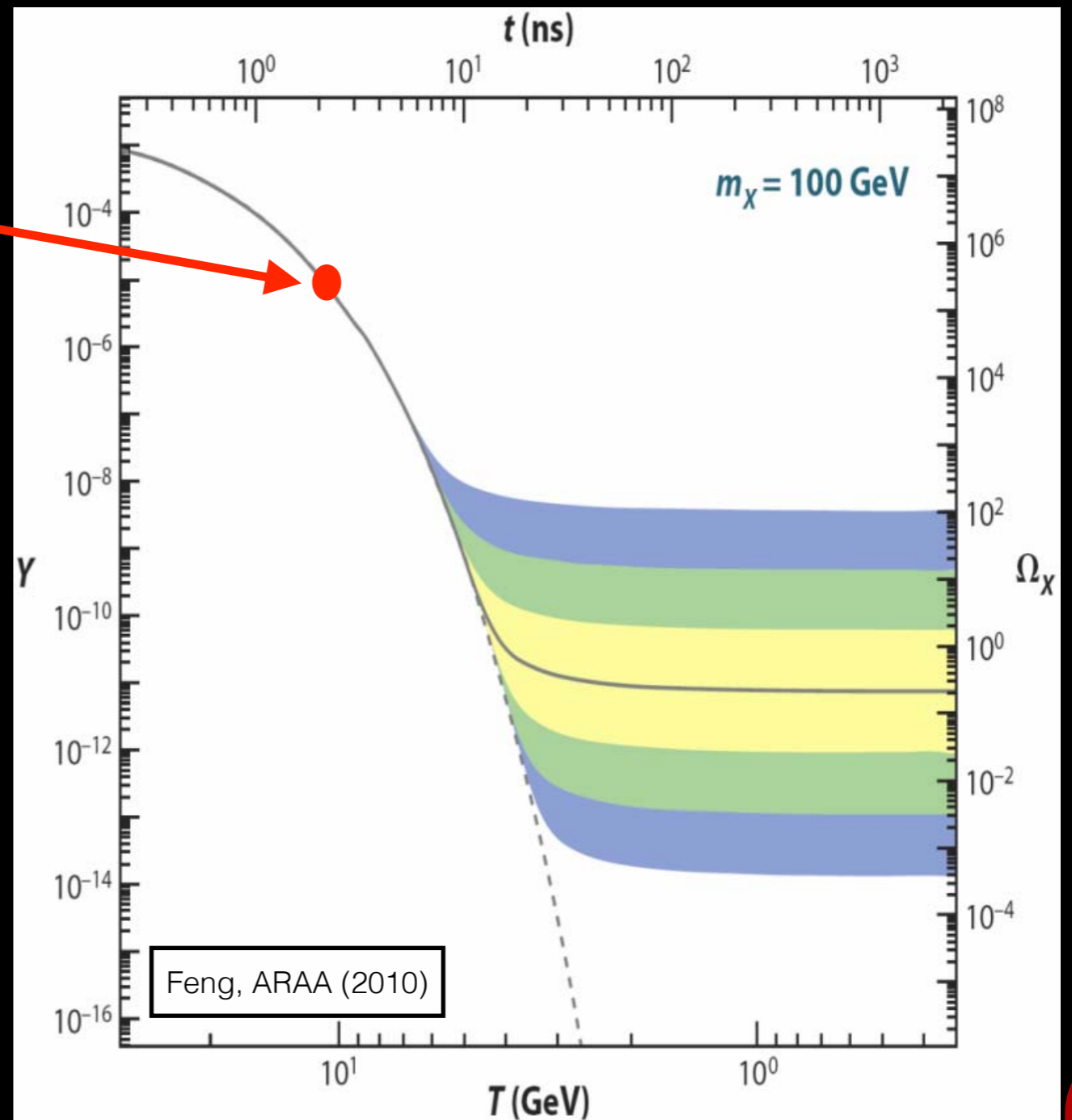


Rewrite **Boltzmann equation** as

$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{x \langle \sigma v \rangle s}{H(m)} (Y^2 - Y_{eq}^2)$$

DM number density  
at equilibrium

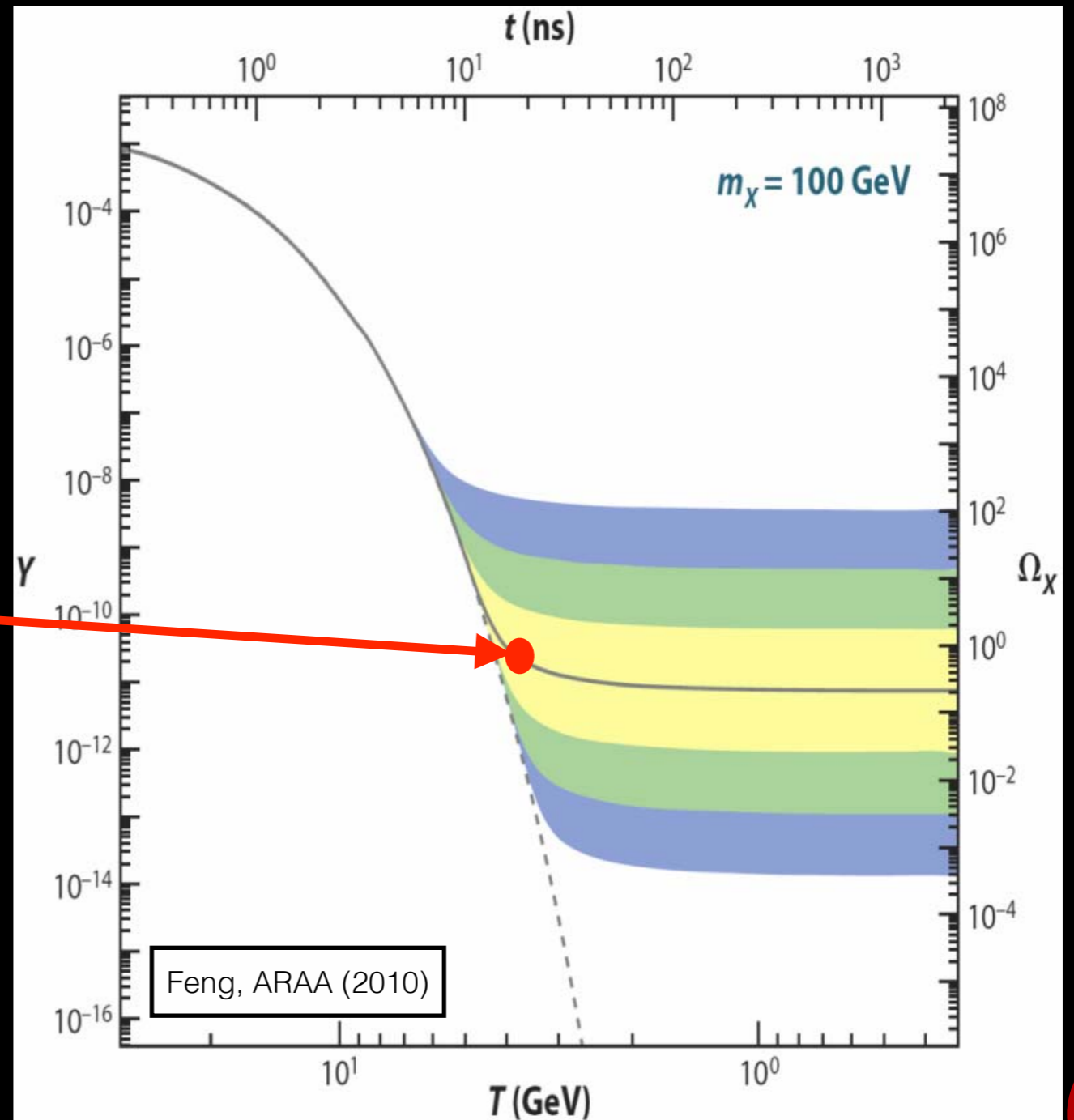
Keeps exponentially  
decreasing as universe  
expands and cools and  
DM converts to SM  
particles



Rewrite **Boltzmann equation** as

$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{x \langle \sigma v \rangle s}{H(m)} (Y^2 - Y_{eq}^2)$$

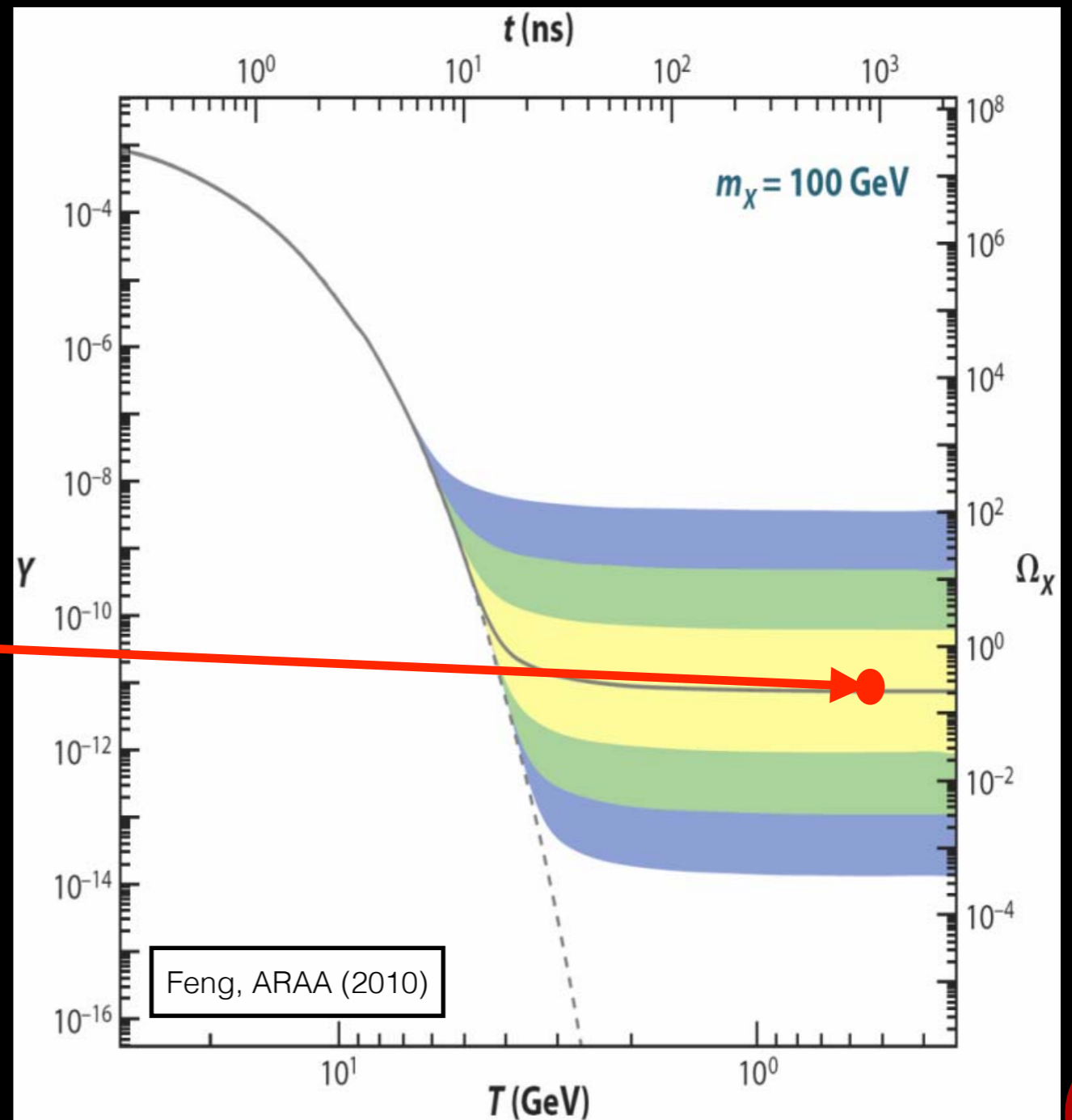
DM Freezes out,  
particles are no longer  
able to find each other  
to annihilate away into  
SM



Rewrite **Boltzmann equation** as

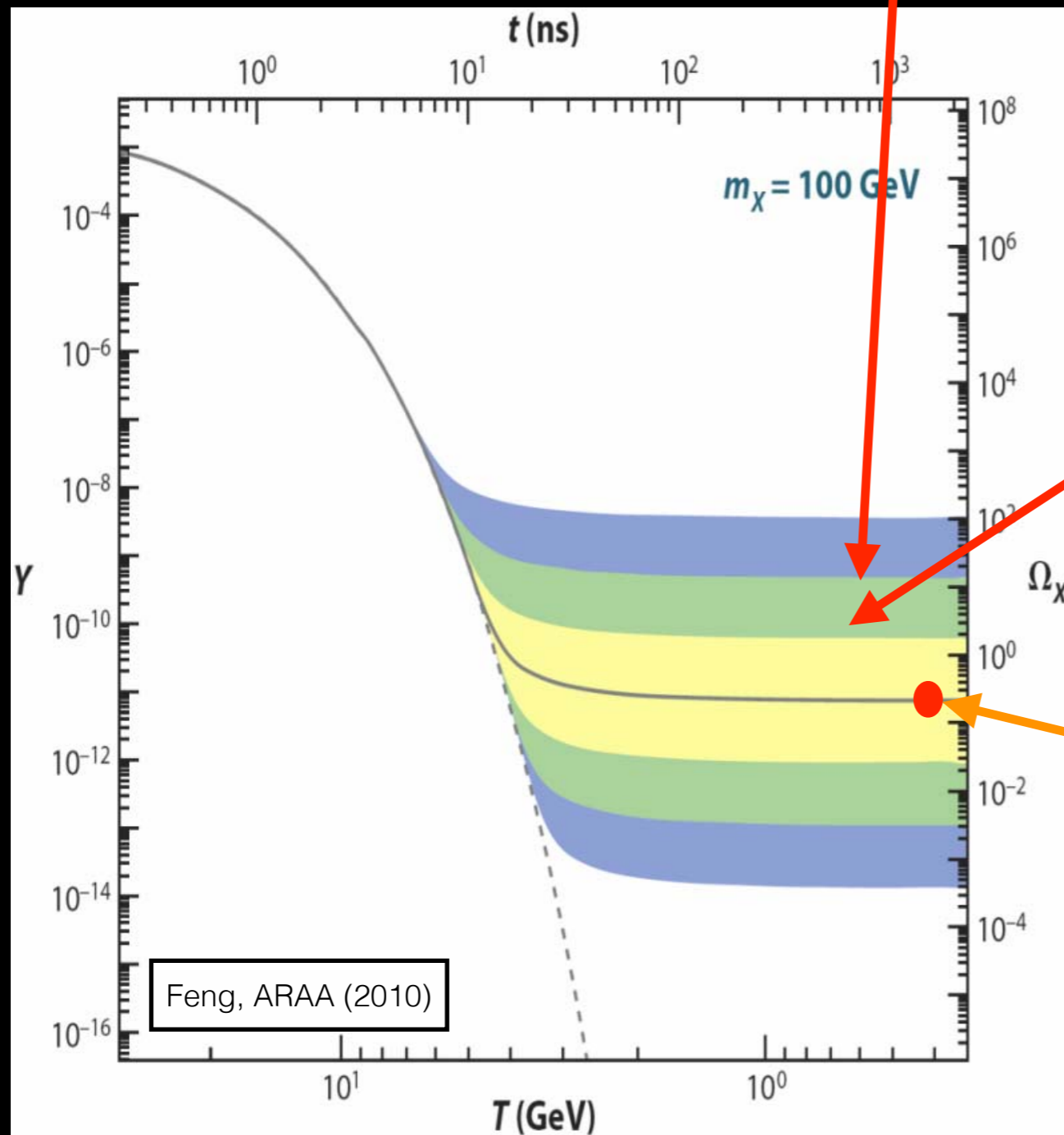
$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{x \langle \sigma v \rangle s}{H(m)} (Y^2 - Y_{eq}^2)$$

DM number density  
we observe in the  
universe today



Rewrite **Boltzmann equation** as

$$\frac{dY}{dx} = -\frac{x \langle \sigma v \rangle s}{H(m)} (Y^2 - Y_{eq}^2)$$



Controlled by strength of particle physics interactions

$$\Omega_c h^2 \sim 0.12$$



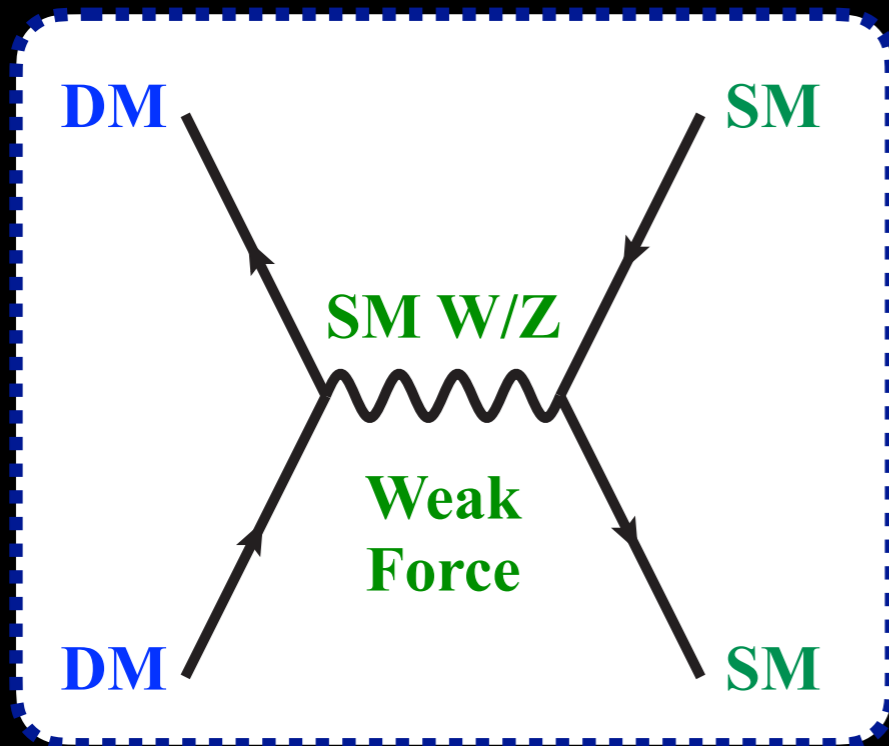
# WIMP Miracle

**Weakly-Interacting** Massive Particles

“Electroweak”  
interactions ( $W^\pm, Z, h$ )

“weak-scale” mass  
1 - 10 000 GeV

Calculations of relic density match cosmological  
observations almost exactly

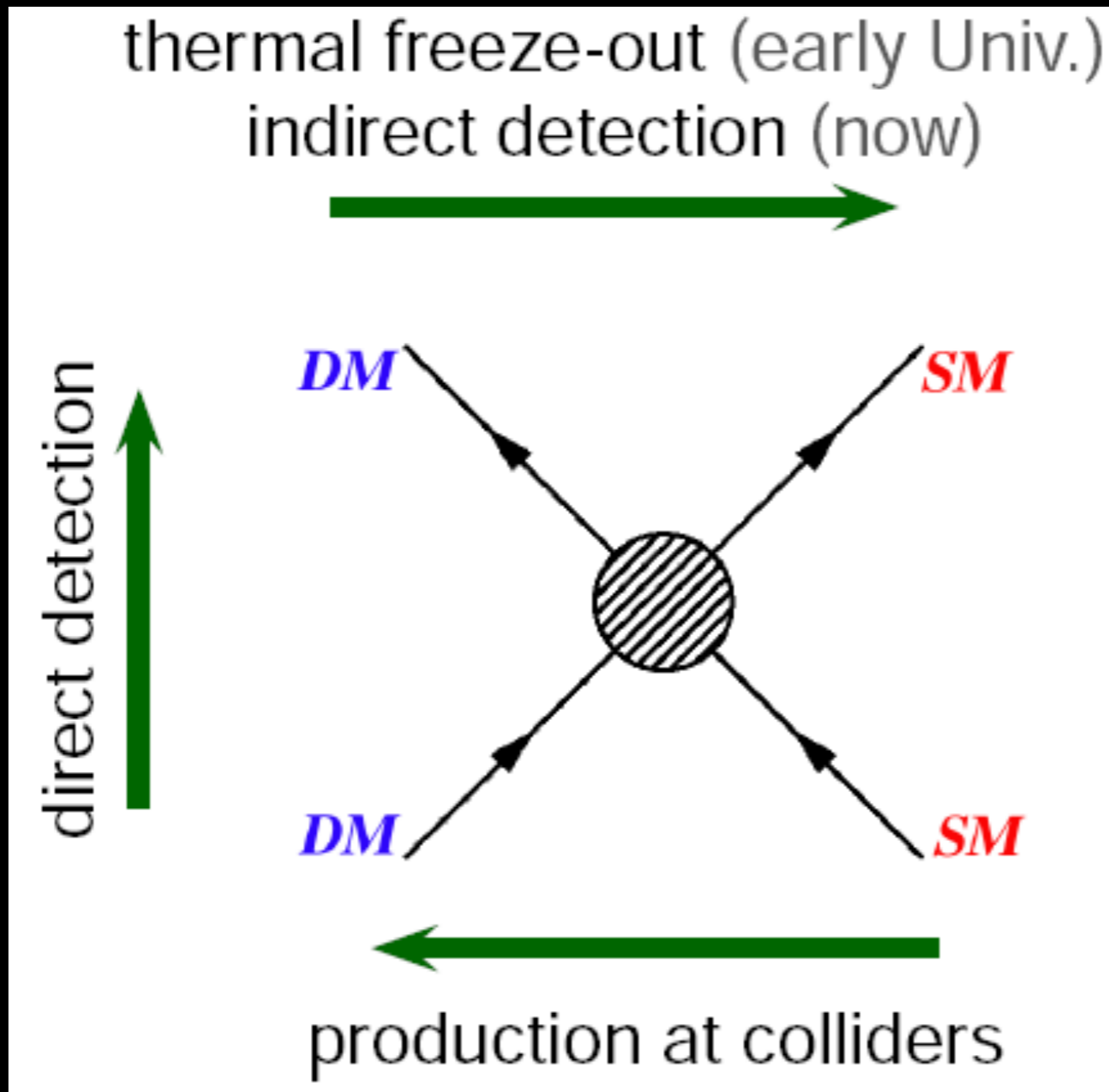


$$\Omega h^2 \sim \frac{0.1 \text{ pb}}{\langle \sigma v \rangle} \sim 0.12$$

Weak scale  
annihilation rate

Dark matter annihilation

# How do we find dark matter?



In the Sky

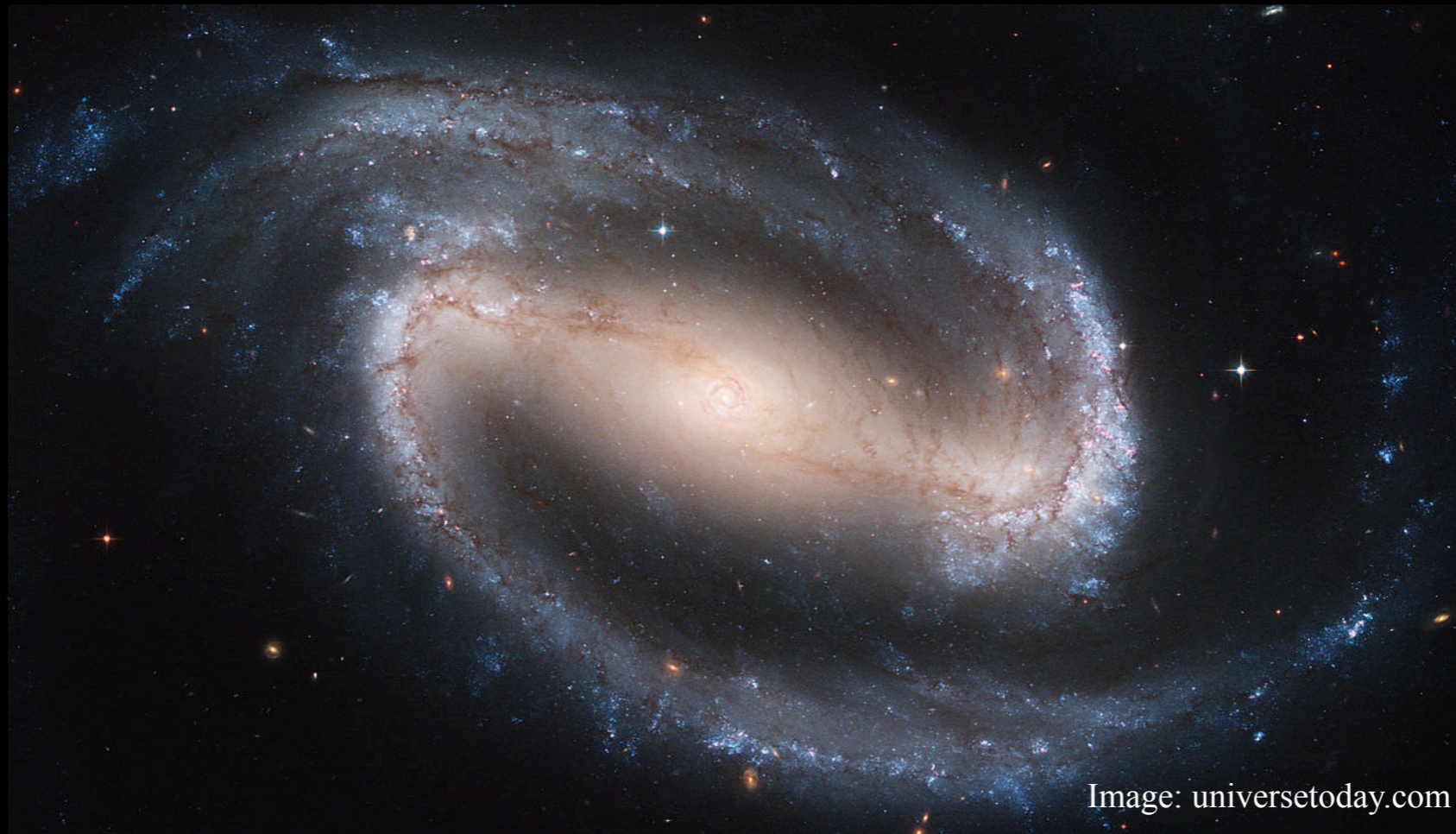
At Colliders

In underground detectors

Image: [cosmo17.in2p3.fr](http://cosmo17.in2p3.fr)

# Indirect detection

In Dark matter dense regions like the Galactic center:

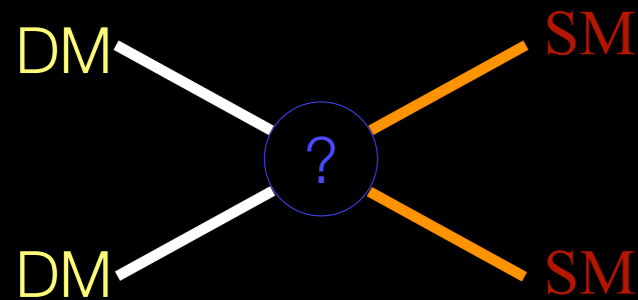


Dark matter particles find each other and annihilate into SM particles

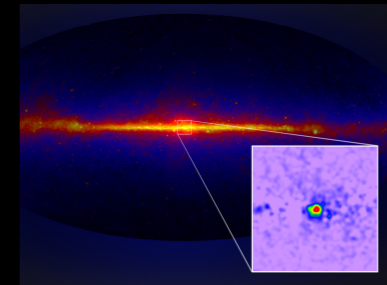
Dark matter particles may decay into SM particles

# We must look where dark matter density is highest

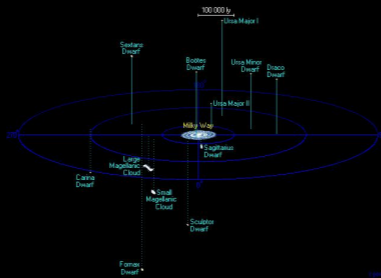
annihilation



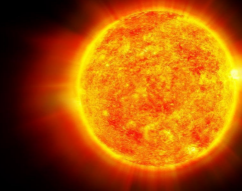
Local halo



Galactic centre,  
other galaxies

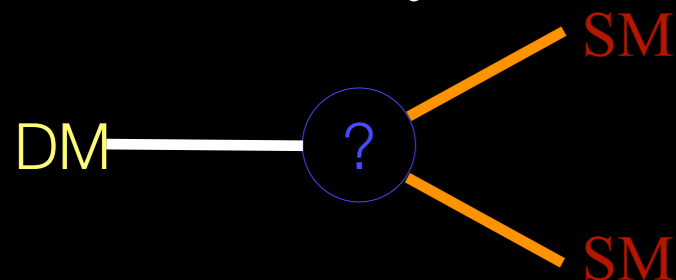


Dwarf  
galaxies

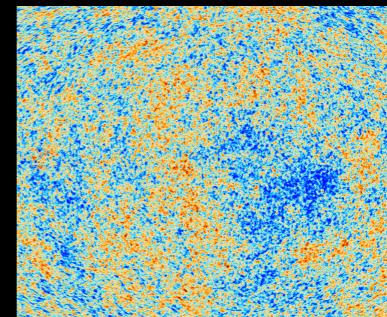


The Sun

decay



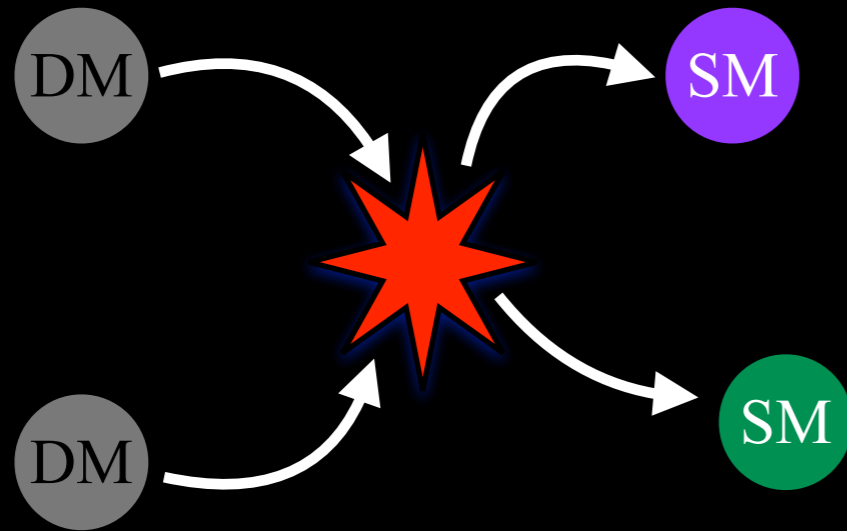
Galaxy  
Clusters



The entire  
Universe

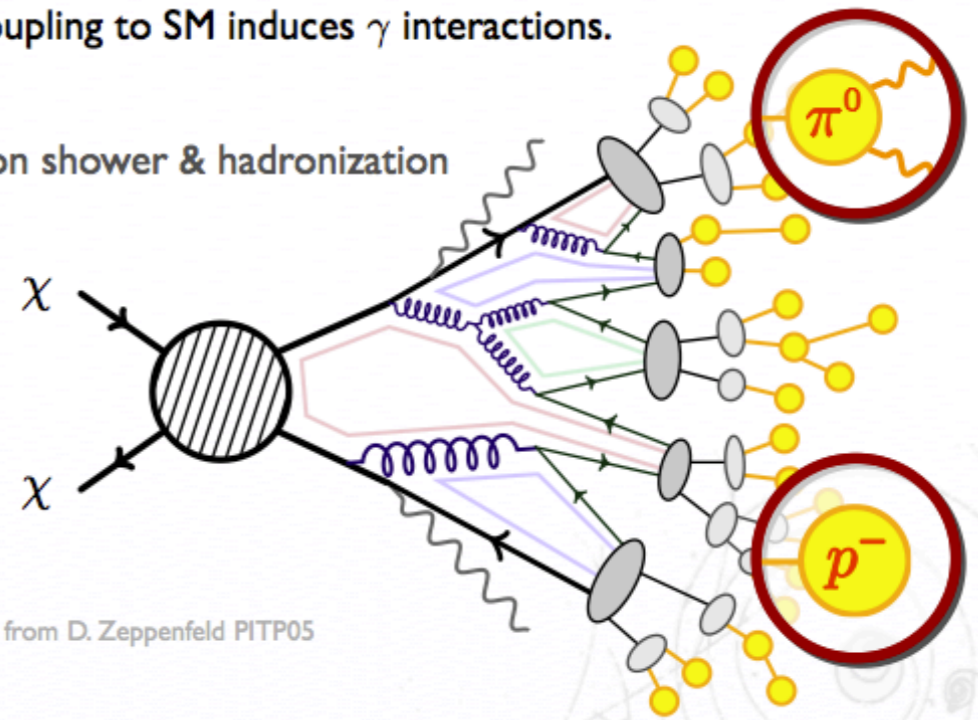
# Indirect Detection

Dark Matter annihilates / decays into SM particles



DM coupling to SM induces  $\gamma$  interactions.

Parton shower & hadronization



Adapted from D. Zeppenfeld PITP05

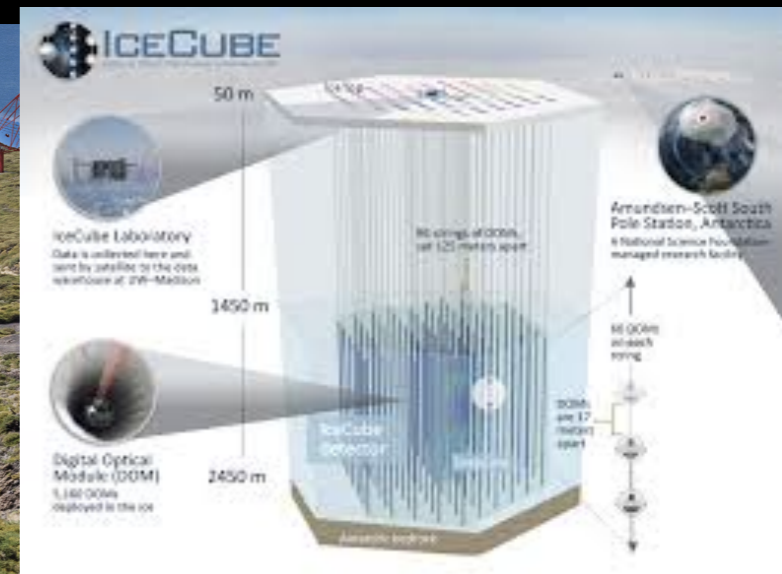
Square Kilometer Array



H.E.S.S. / Cherenkov Telescope Array

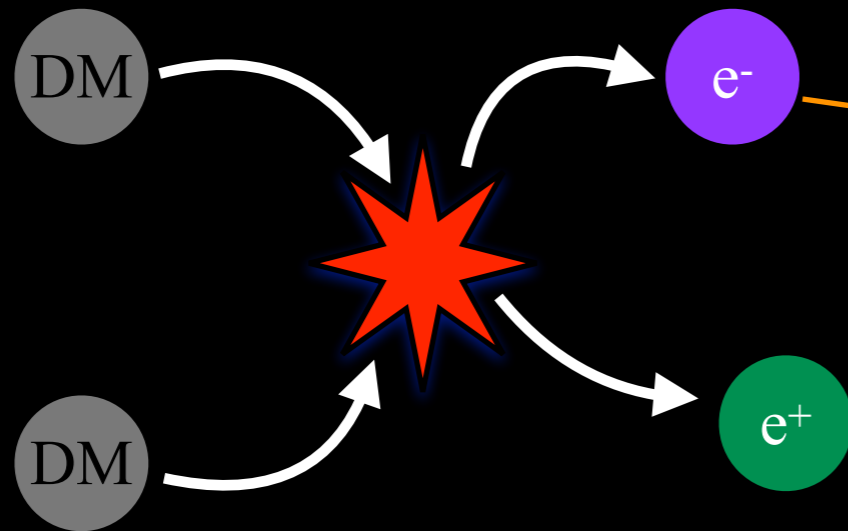


IceCUBE neutrino observatory

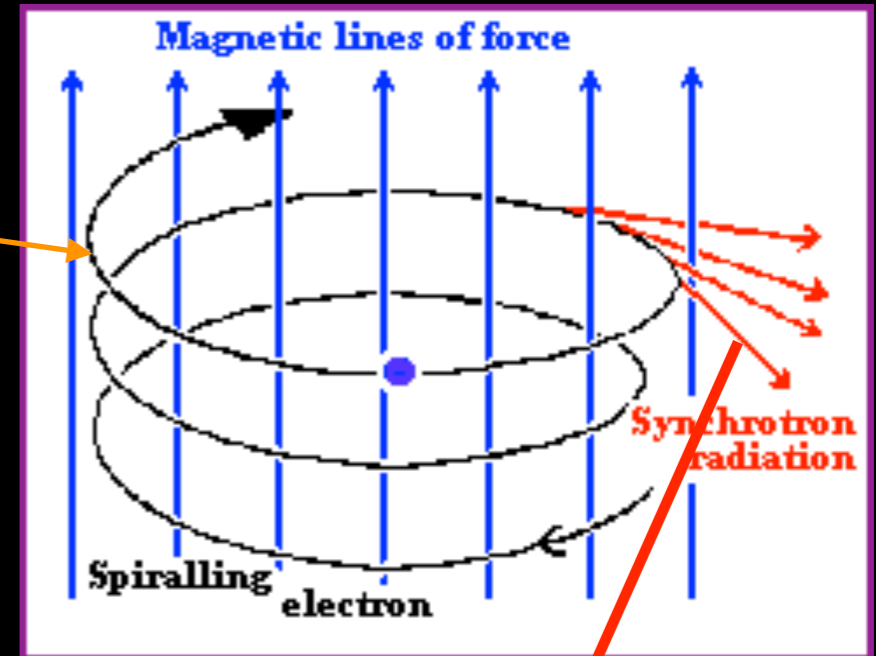


# e.g Synchrotron Radiation

Dark Matter annihilates to charged SM particles like electrons/positrons



Galactic magnetic fields



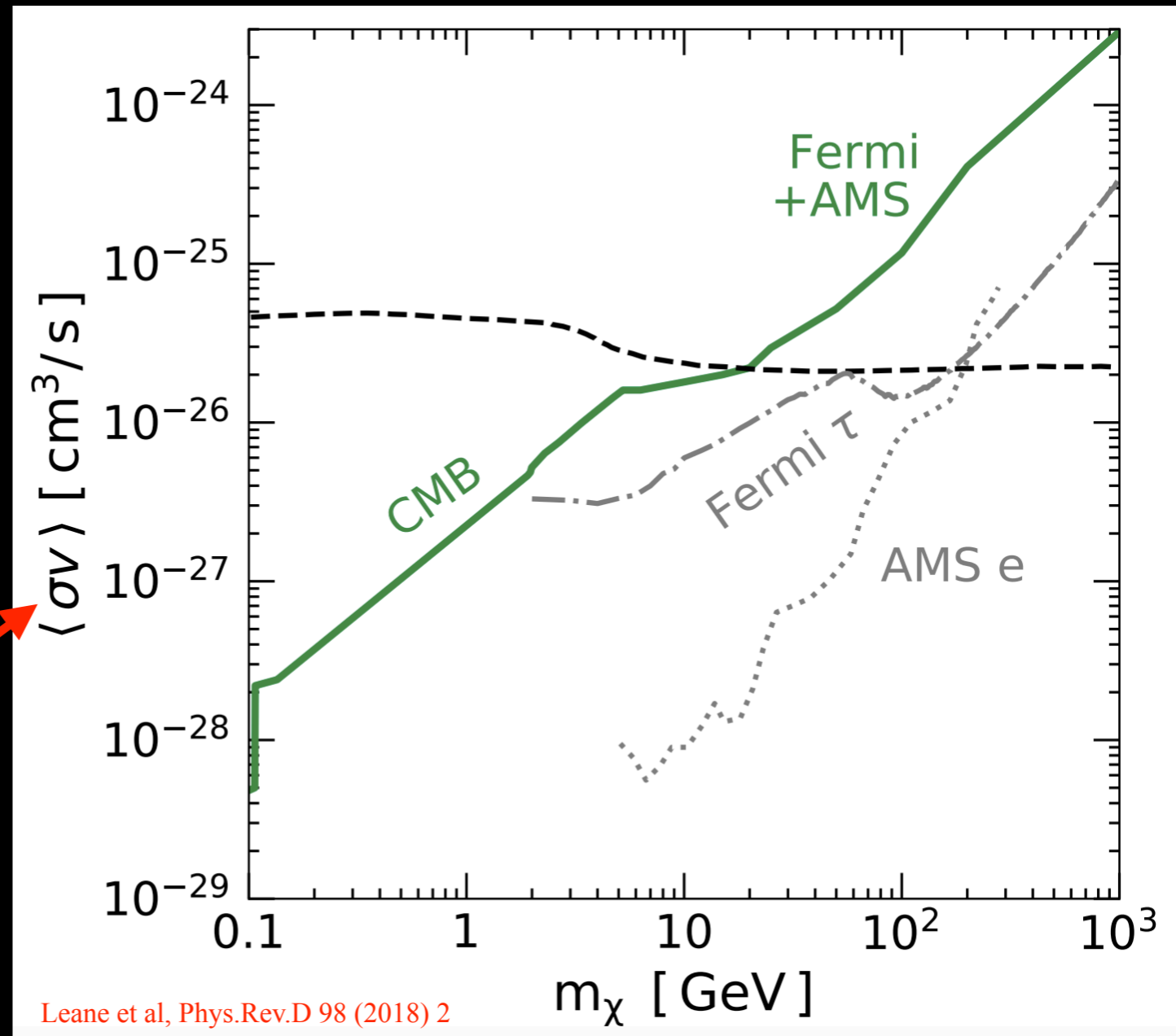
Square Kilometer Array

# Indirect Detection

$$\frac{d\phi}{dE_\gamma} \sim \left( \frac{\langle \sigma v \rangle}{8\pi} \frac{dN_\gamma}{dE_\gamma} \frac{1}{m_\chi^2} \right) \int_{\Delta\Omega} \int_{l.o.s} \rho_\chi^2(l) dl d\Omega$$

Flux of photons  
from DM  
annihilation

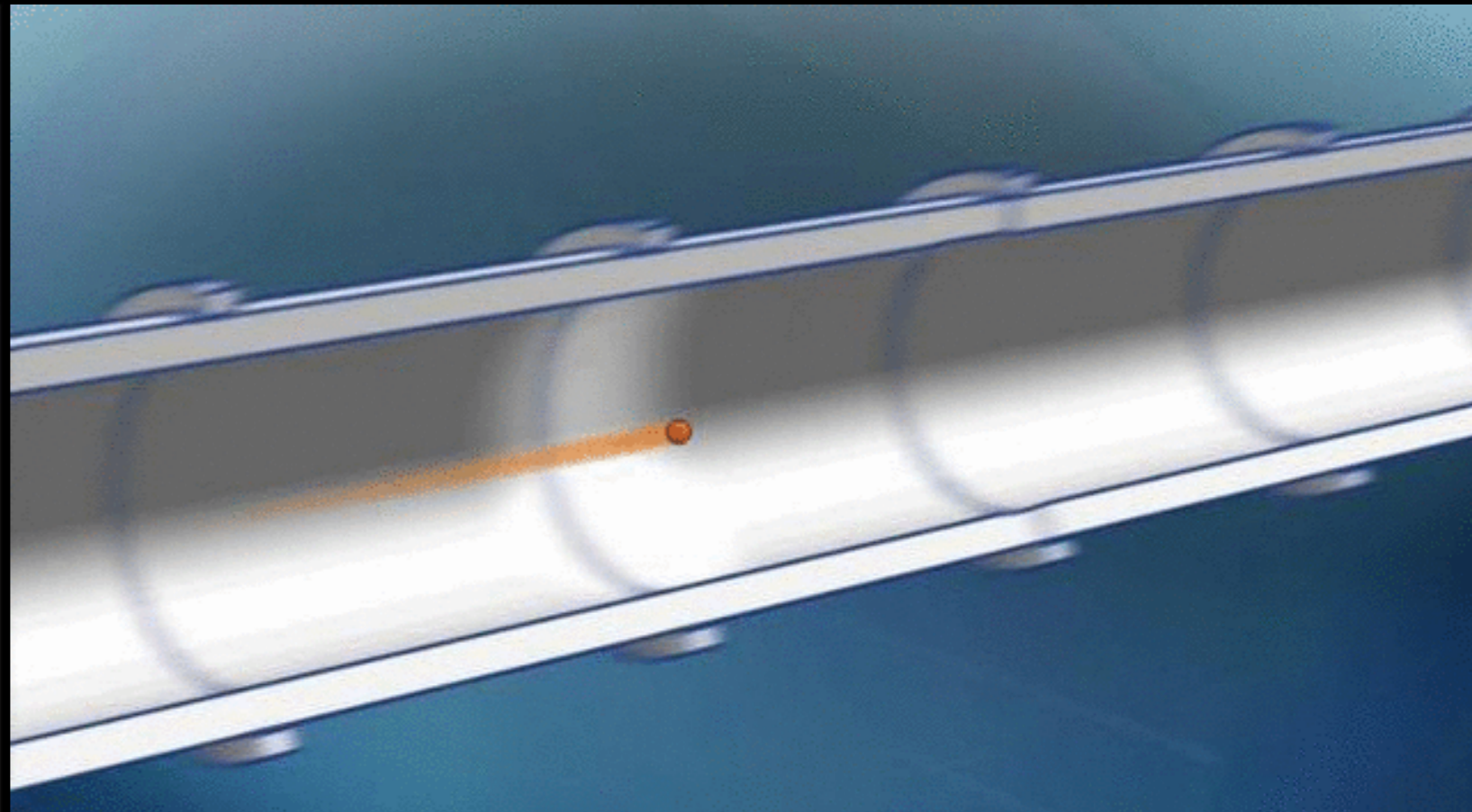
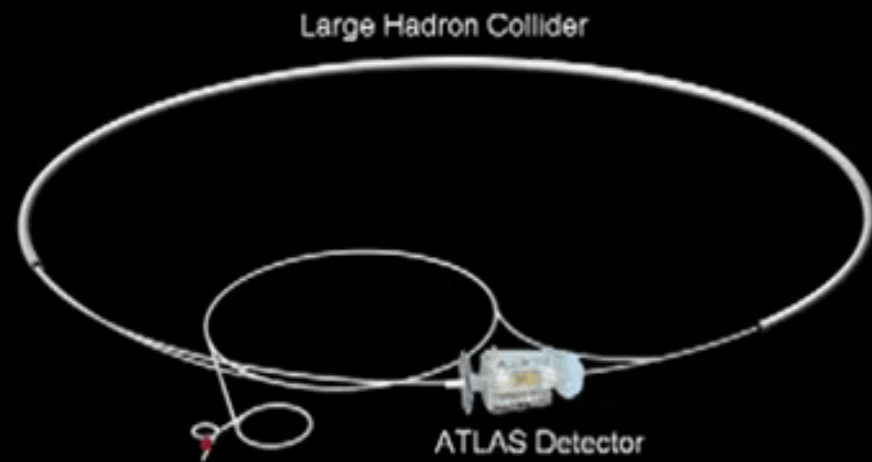
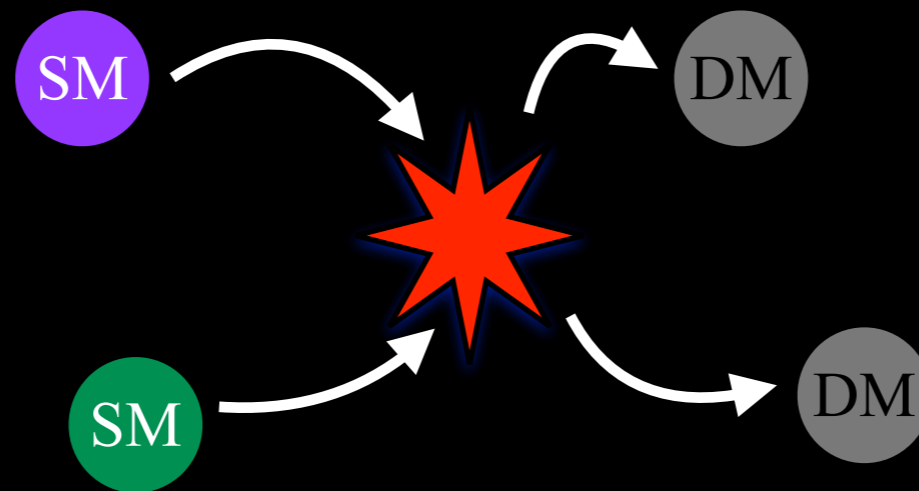
Compared with data  
from telescopes to obtain  
limits on DM parameters



Leane et al, Phys.Rev.D 98 (2018) 2

# Production at Colliders/Accelerators

Collide SM particles to produce dark matter in the Laboratory





# Production at Colliders/Accelerators

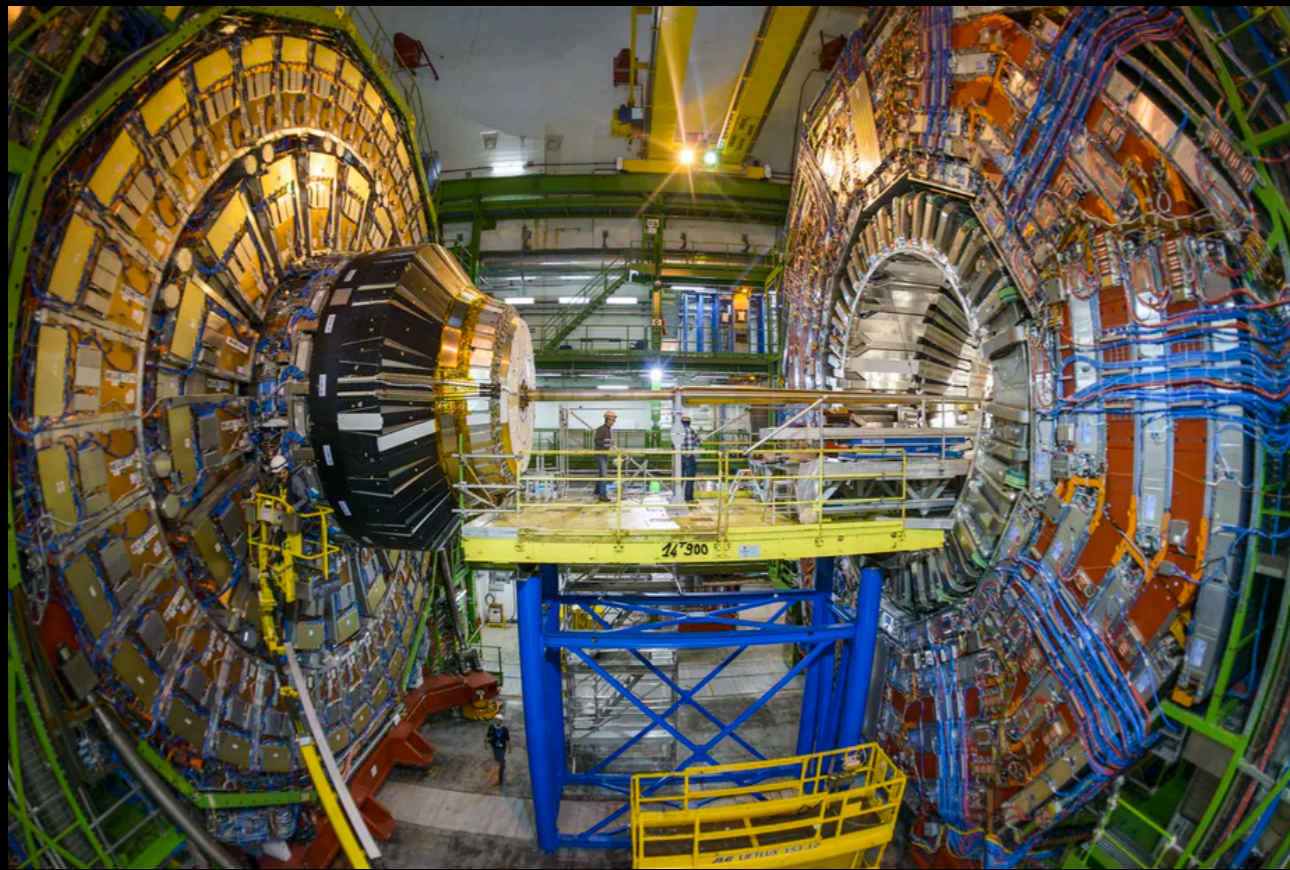
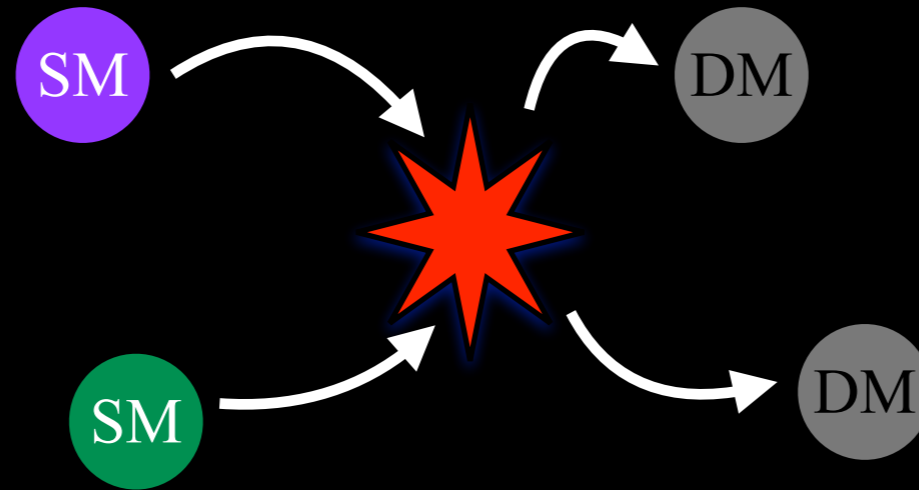


Image: [theconversation.com](http://theconversation.com)

High/low energy colliders

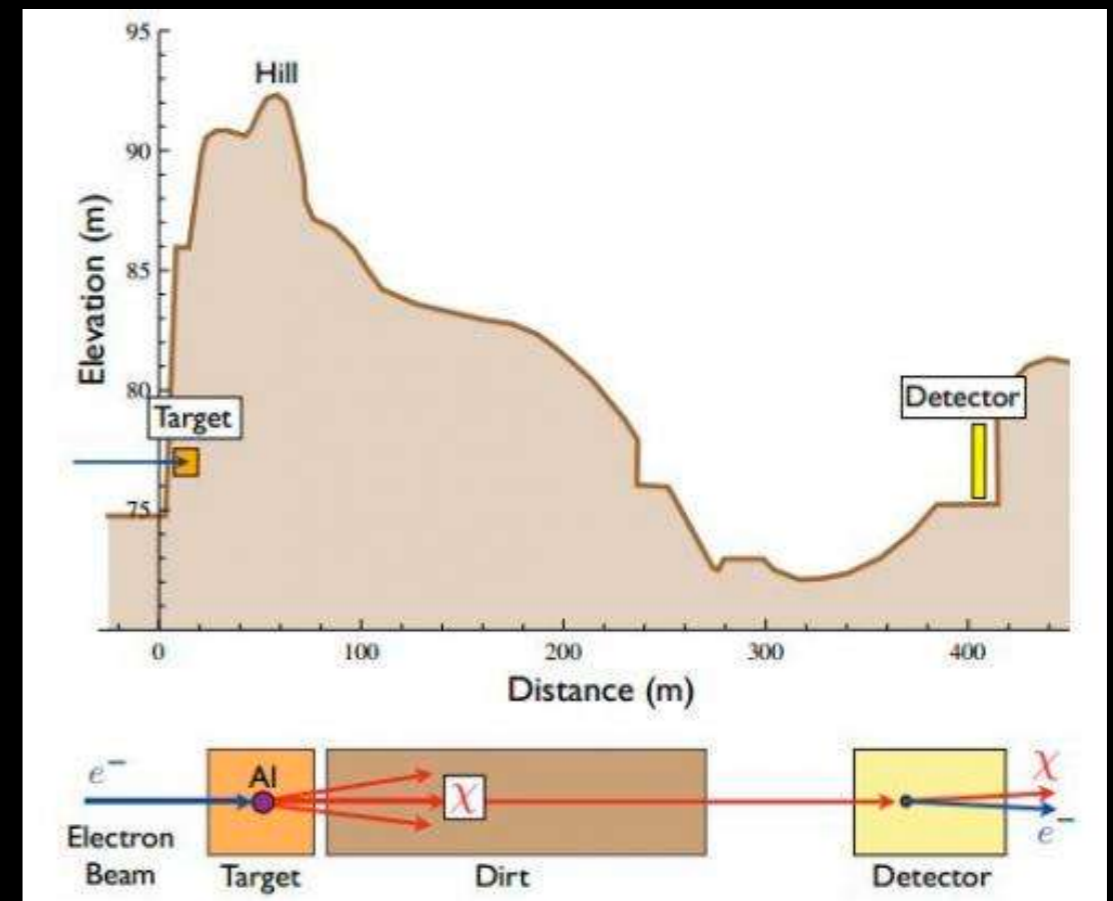


Image: [phys.org](http://phys.org)

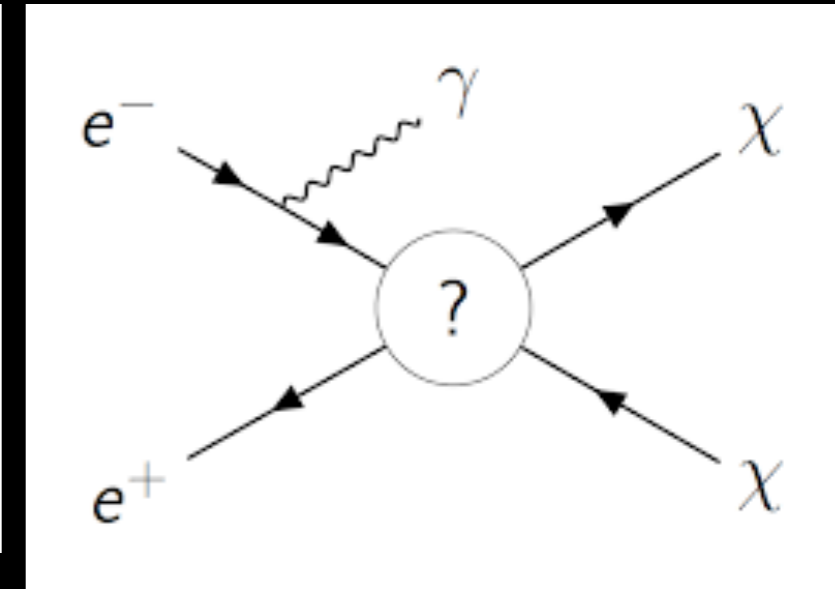
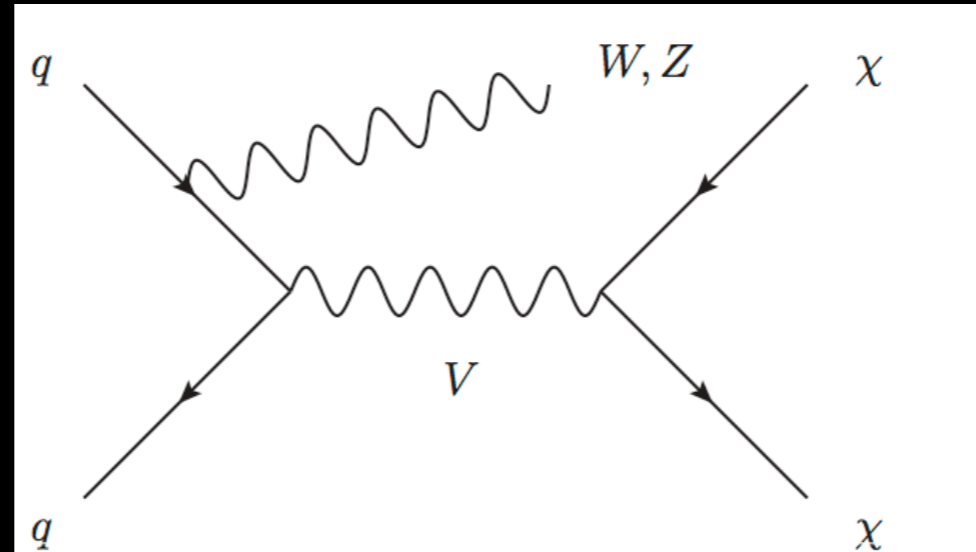
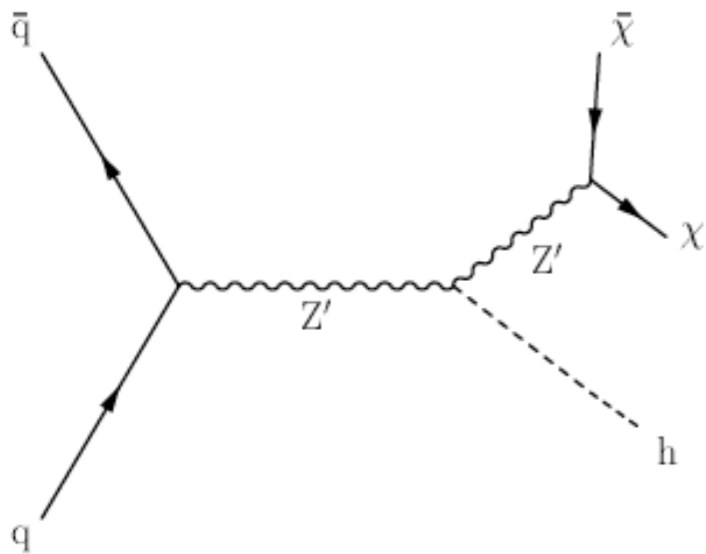
Fixed target experiments

# Production/Detection at Colliders

(Remember yesterday's lecture by Prof Charlton)

For center of mass collisions, dark matter can be discovered through Mono-X searches

DM is produced and recoils against SM particle, we only see the SM particle. Kinematics allows us to determine DM mass and coupling strength



mono-photon searches at  $e^+/e^-$  colliders

E.g. mono-Higgs searches at P-P colliders like LHC

mono-W/Z searches at P-P colliders like LHC

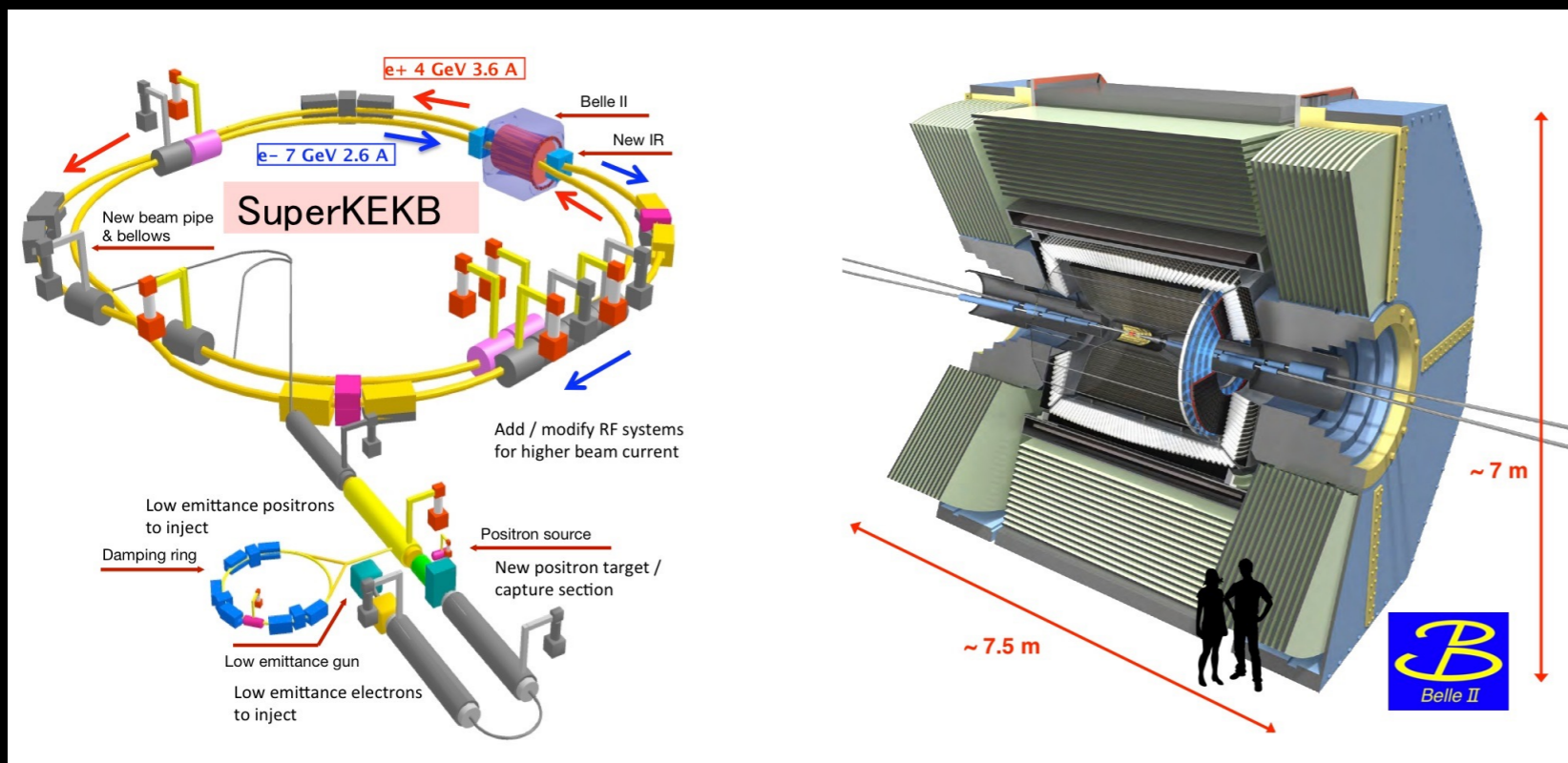
# Large Hadron Collider at CERN



14 TeV P-P collisions

Higher DM masses

# Belle II Collider at KEK in Japan

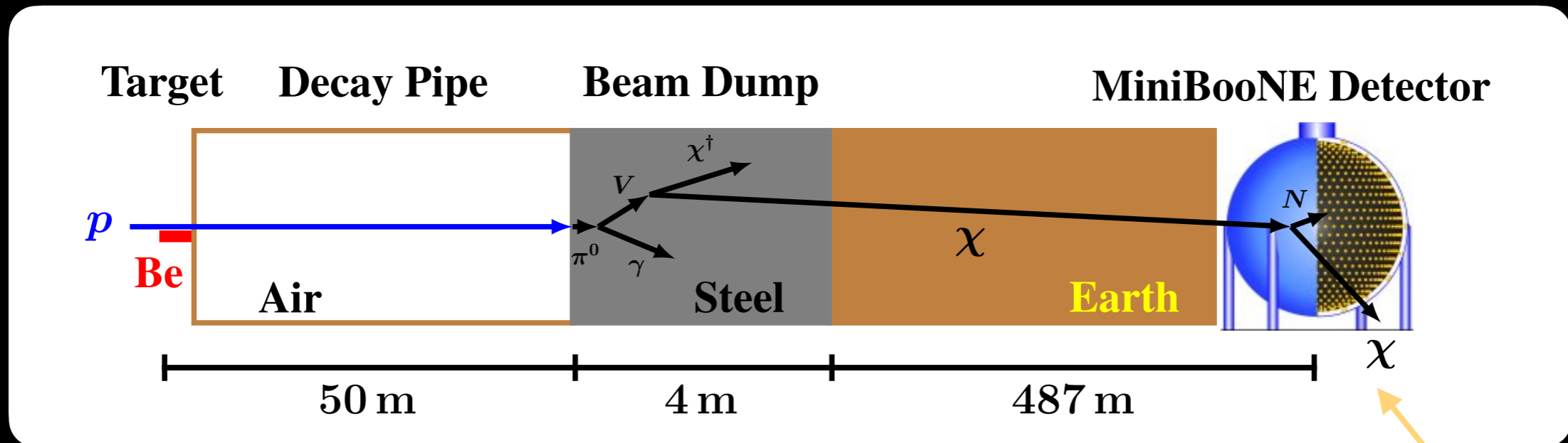


10 GeV  $e^+/e^-$  collisions

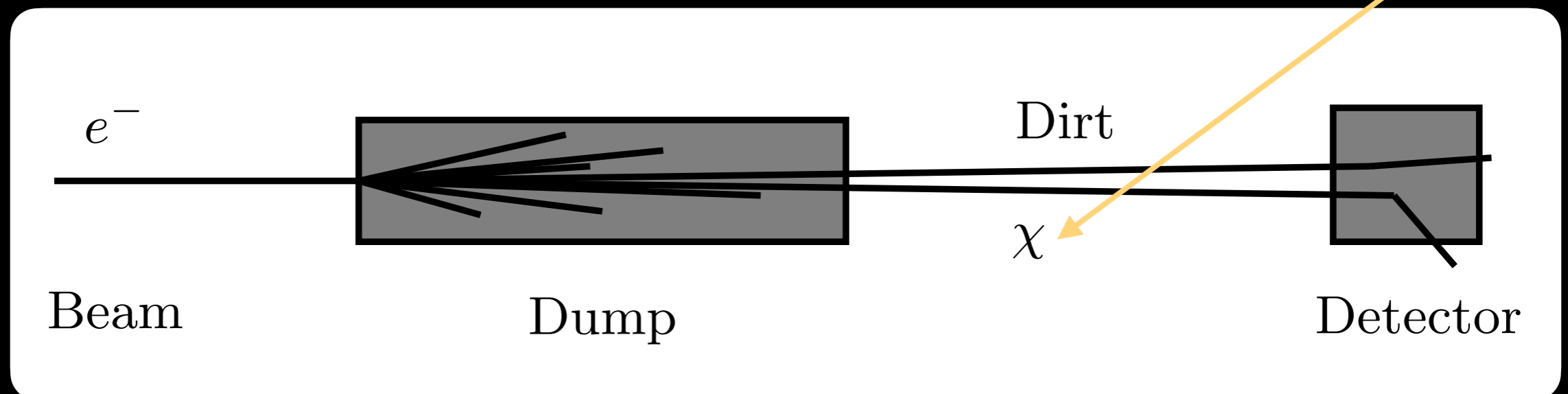
Probe low DM masses

# Production/Detection at Fixed target experiments

## Proton fixed target experiments



## Electron fixed target experiments



Dark Matter

Search for low mass dark matter

# Direct Detection

Milky way is surrounded by 'spherical' halo of DM

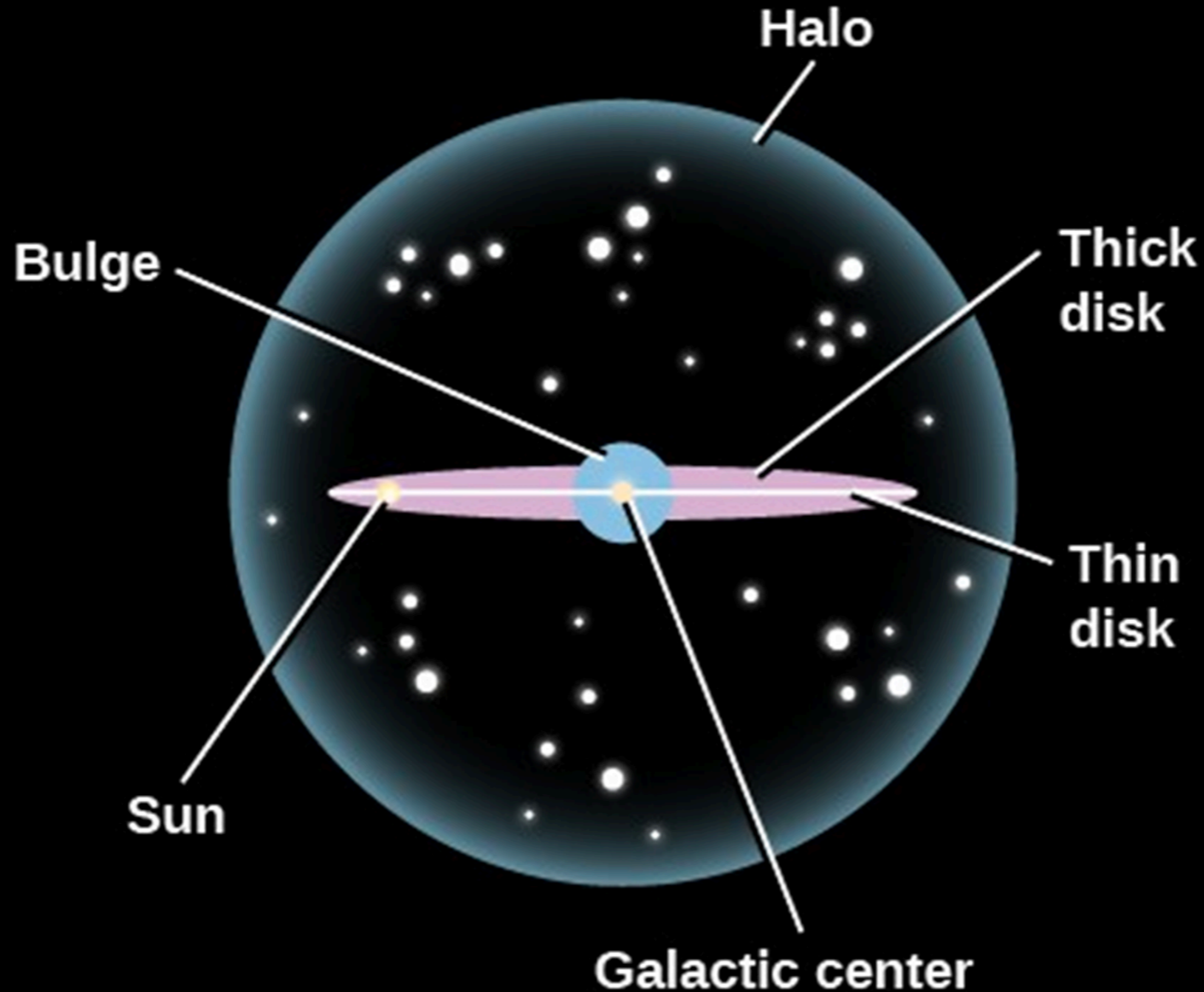


Image: [evolution.calpoly.edu](http://evolution.calpoly.edu)

# Direct Detection

As sun moves around galaxy, solar system gets hit by dark matter wind

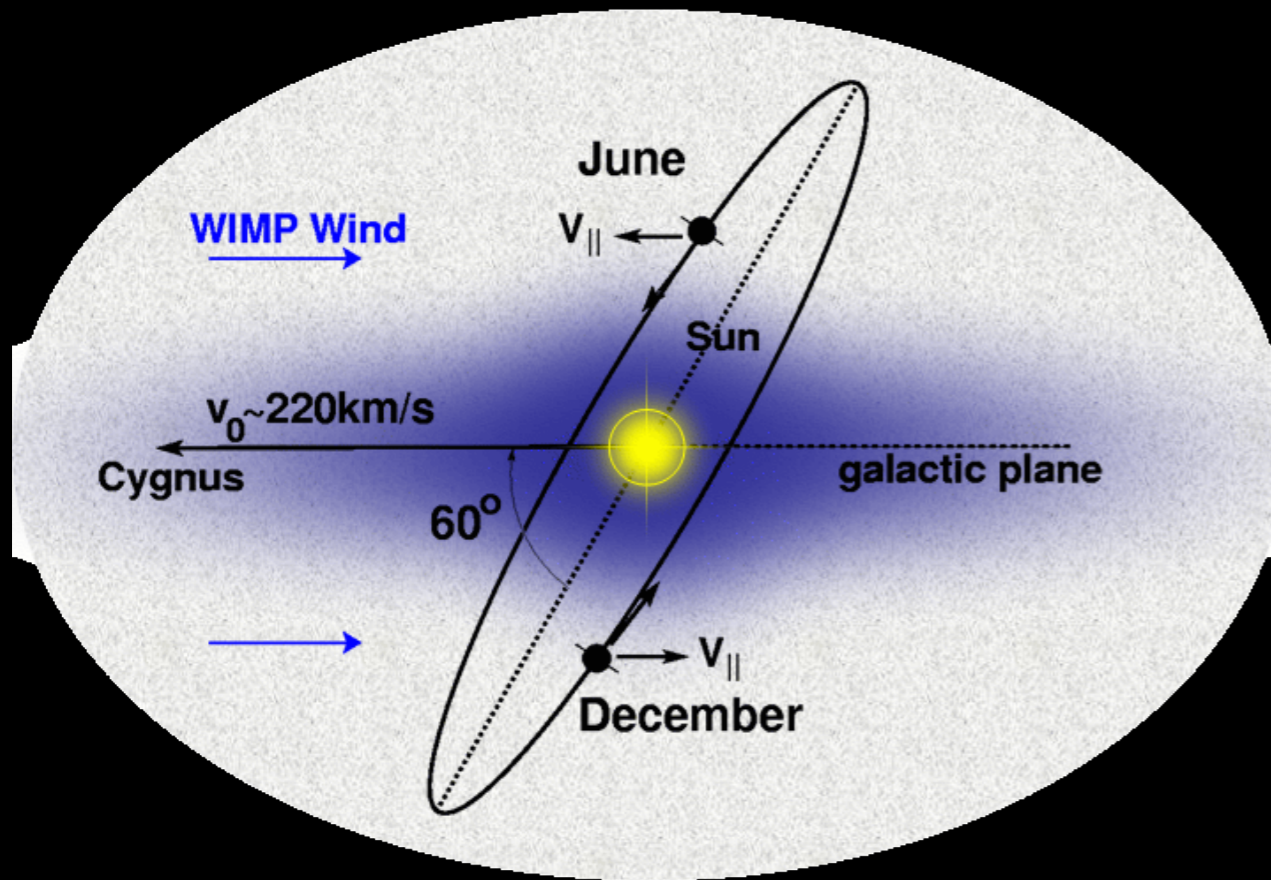


Image: [quantumdiaries.org](http://quantumdiaries.org)

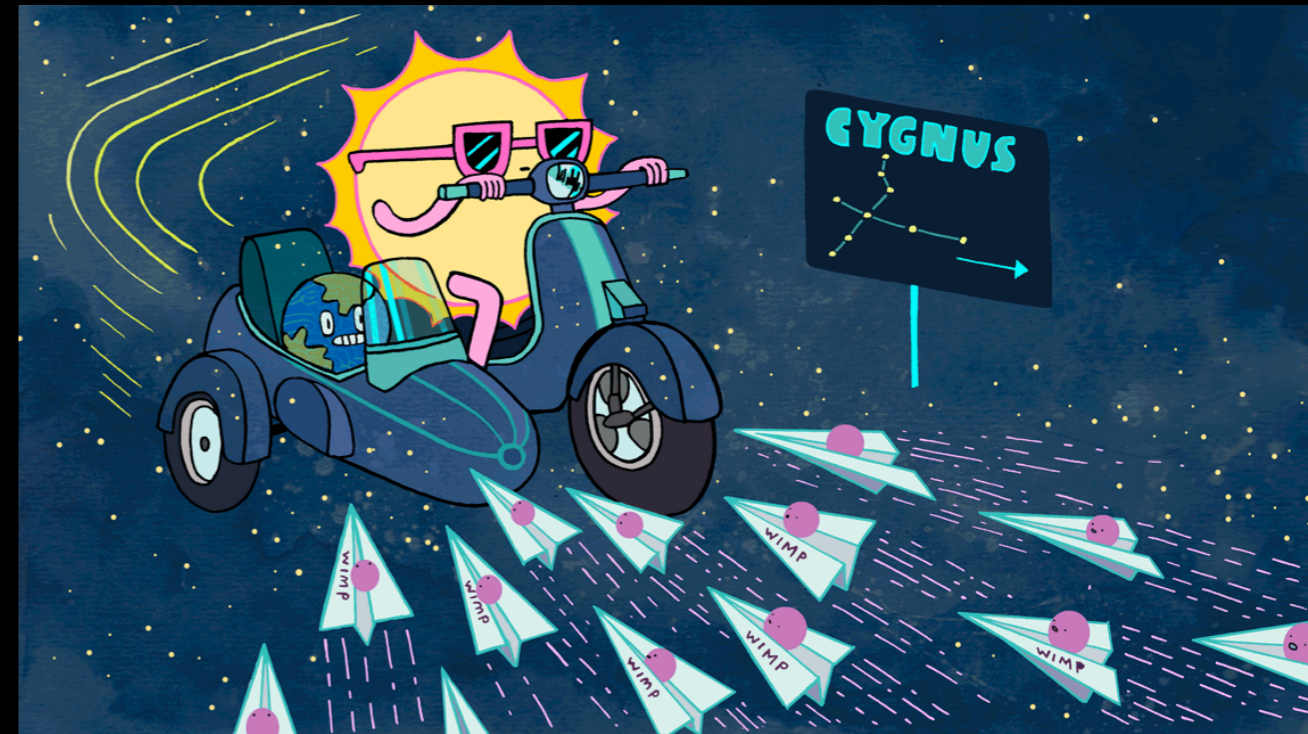


Image: [symmetrymagazine.org](http://symmetrymagazine.org)

Build a detector in a quiet place and patiently wait for dark matter to come knocking

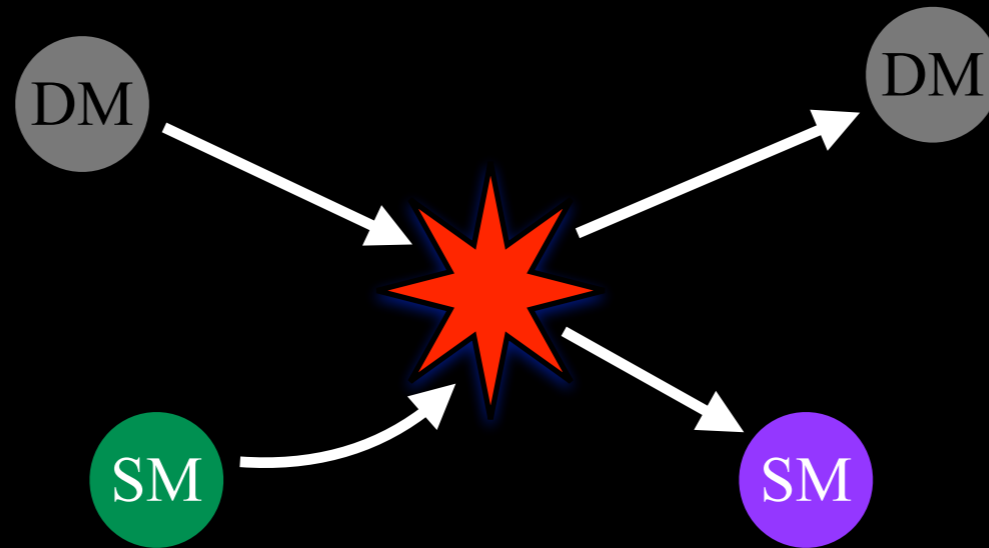
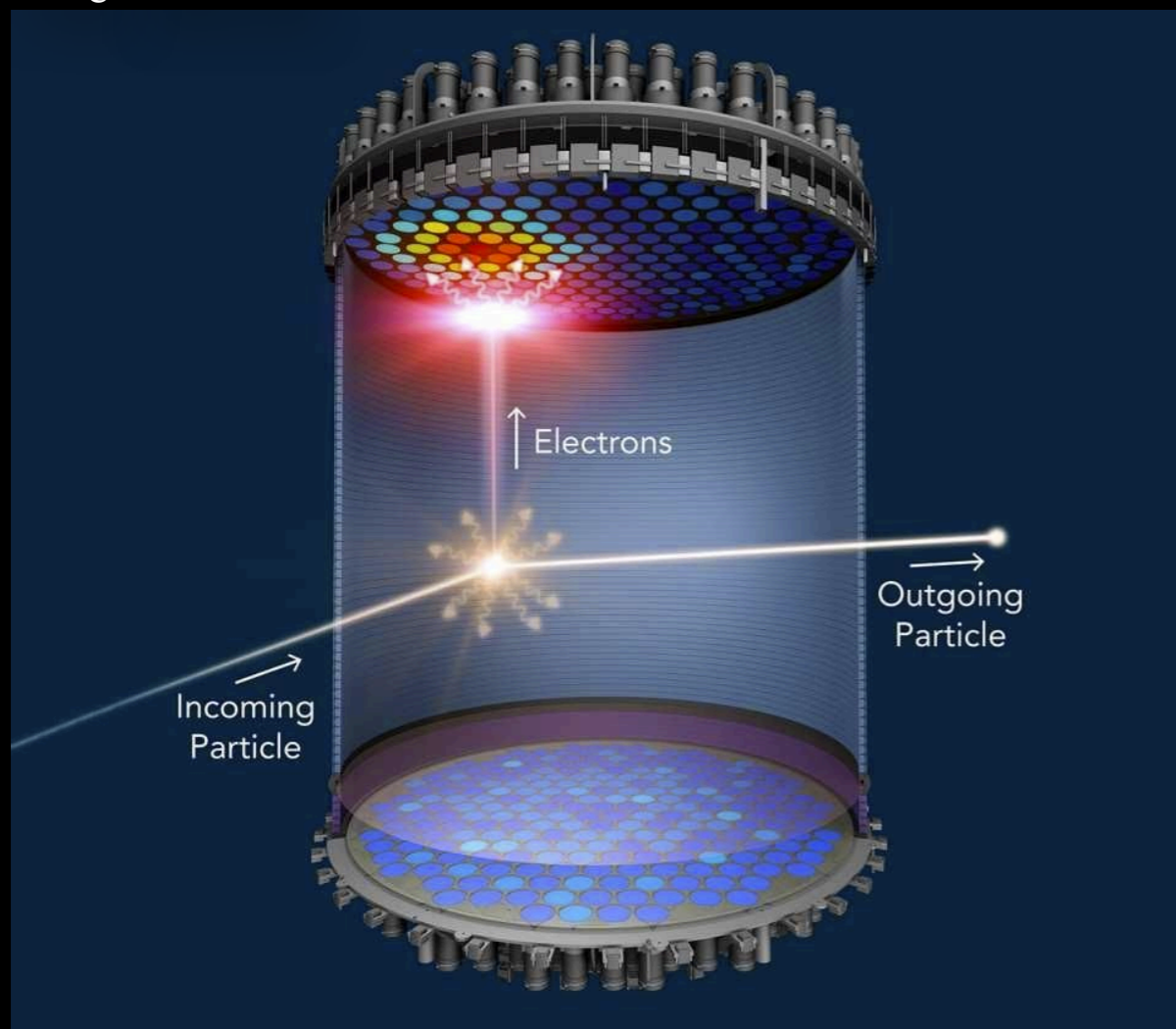


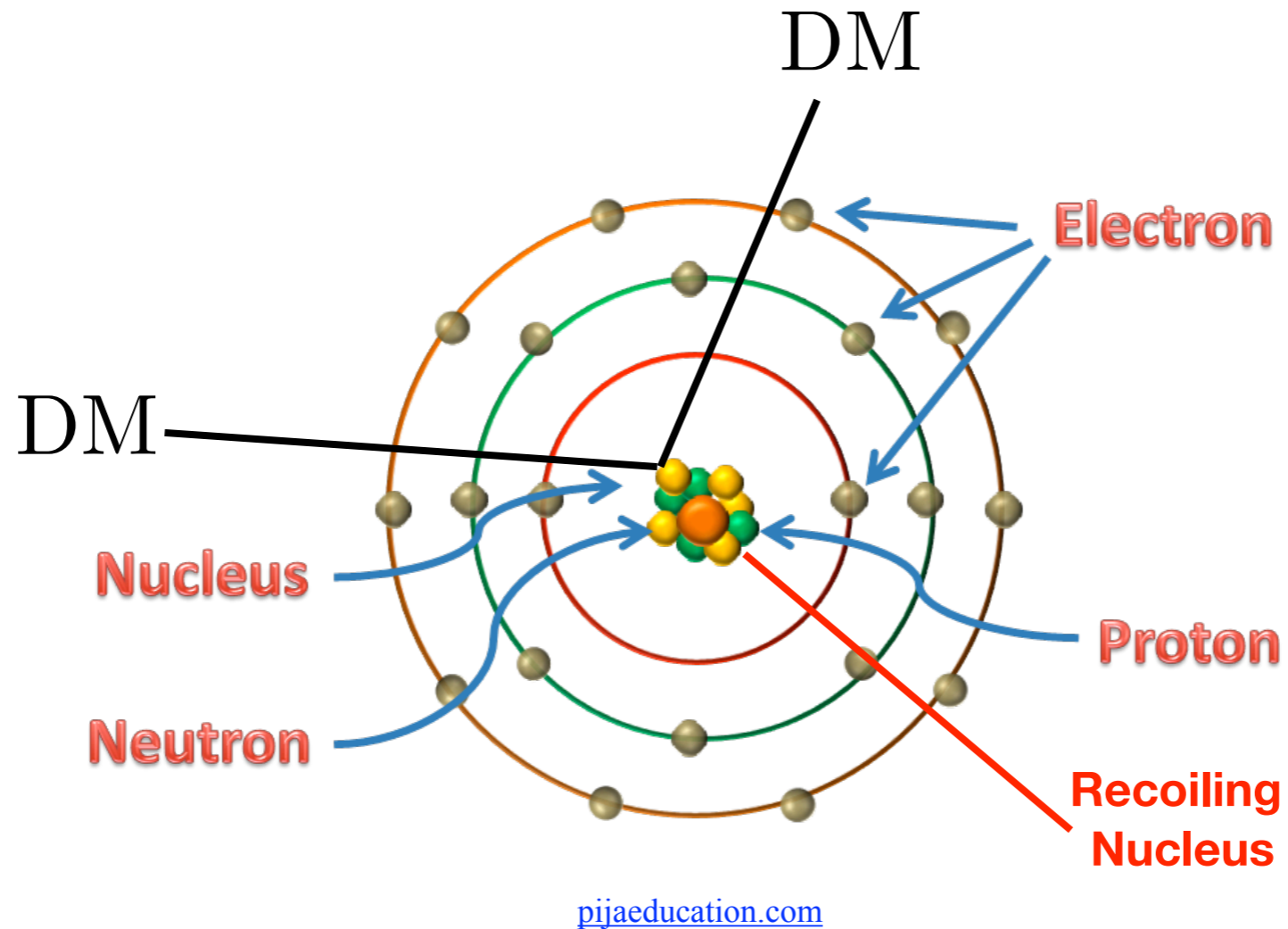
Image: [forbes.com](https://www.forbes.com)



Dark matter hits a nucleus causing a recoil

recoil nucleus is detected and kinematic information used to get dark matter properties

# Nuclear Scattering



Nuclear  
recoil  
rate

$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} \sim N_T \Delta T \frac{\sigma_{\chi N}}{2\mu^2} |F(E_R)|^2 \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \int_{v_{min}}^{inf} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv$$

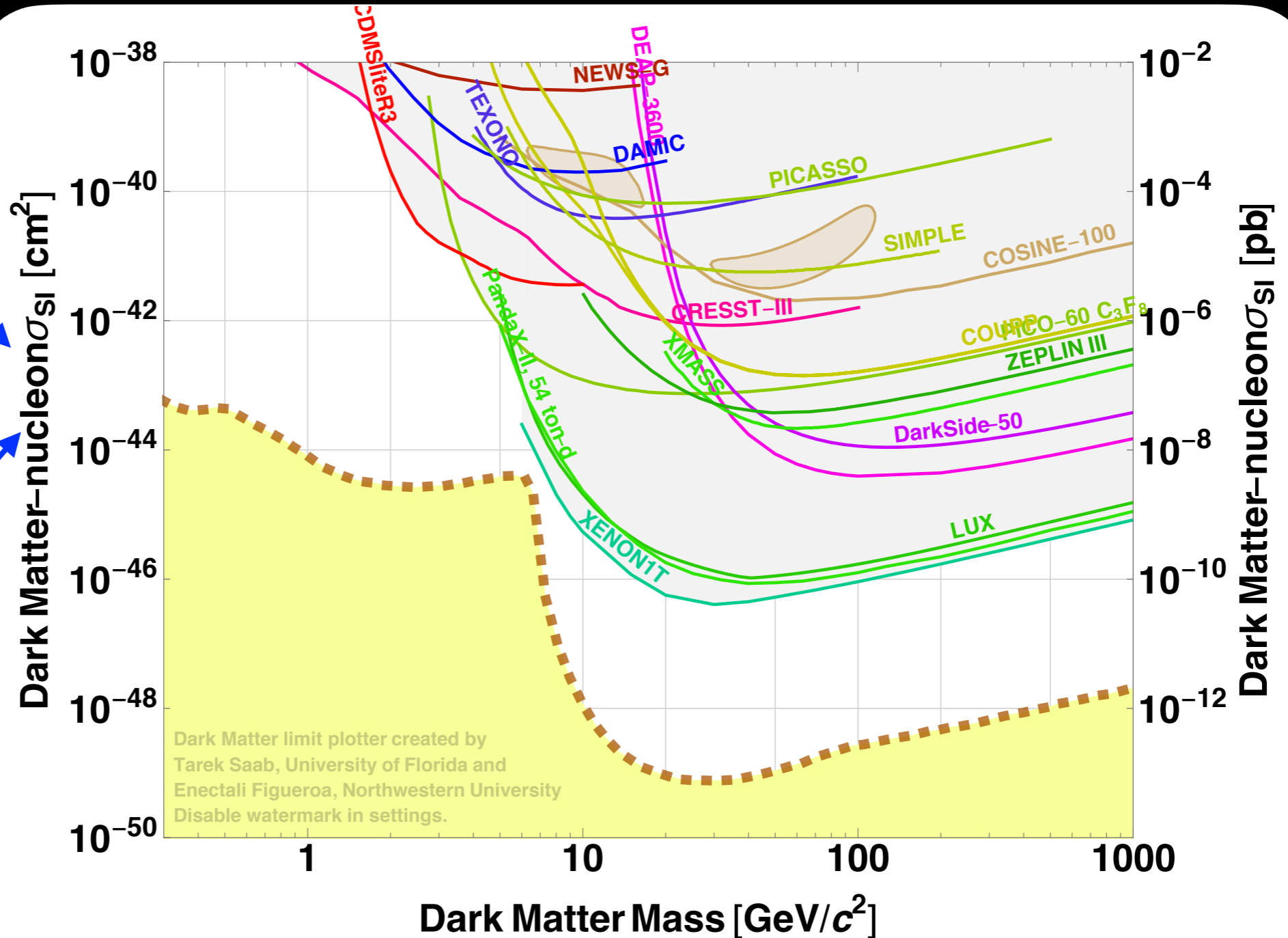


# Fit recoil rate to experimental data to understand DM parameter space

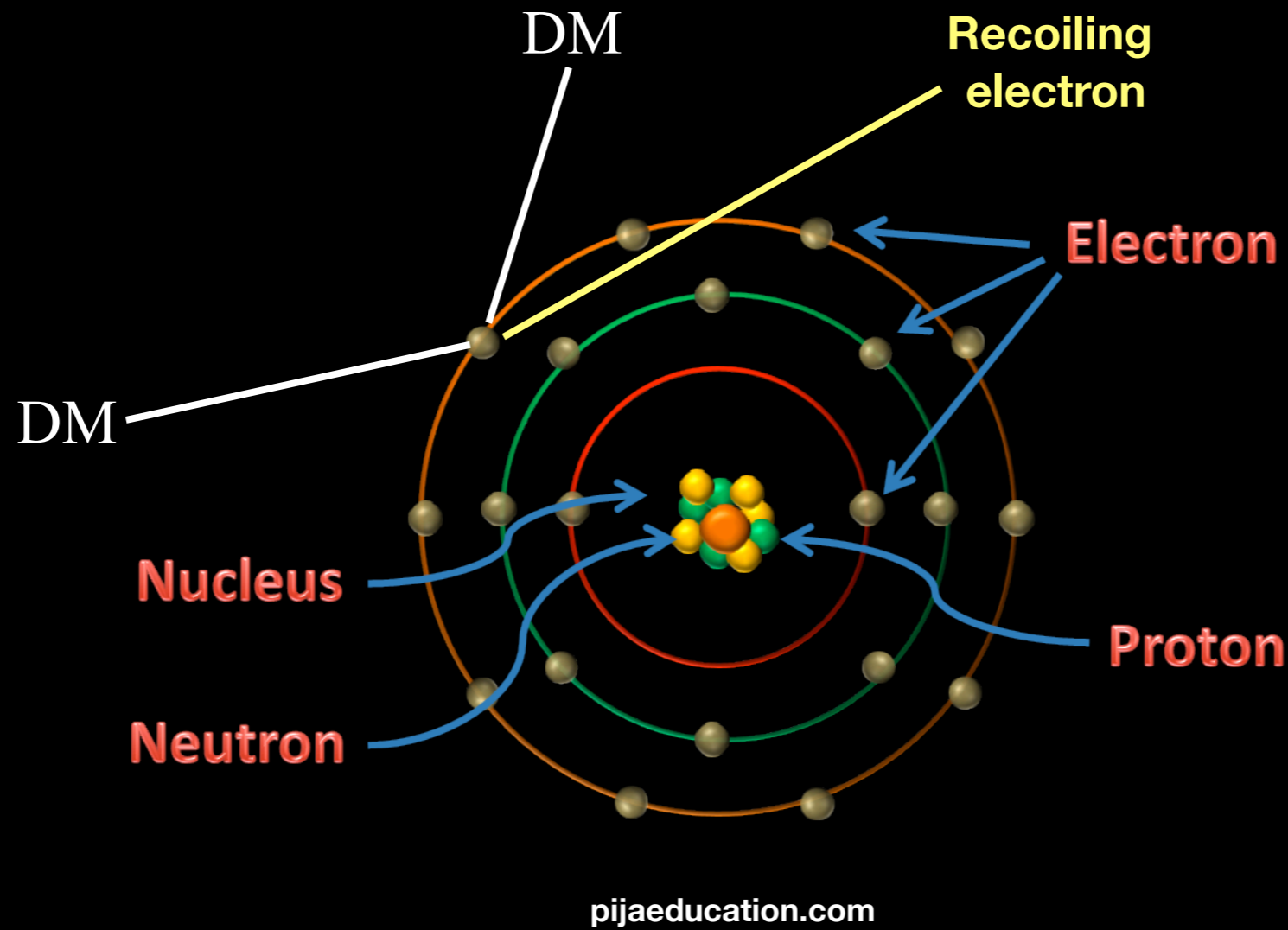
$$\frac{dR}{dE_R} \sim N_T \Delta T \frac{\sigma_{\chi N}}{2\mu^2} |F(E_R)|^2 \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \int_{v_{min}}^{inf} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv$$

DM-  
nucleus  
interaction  
strength

Particle  
physics  
models  
enter here



# Electron Scattering



Electron  
recoil  
rate

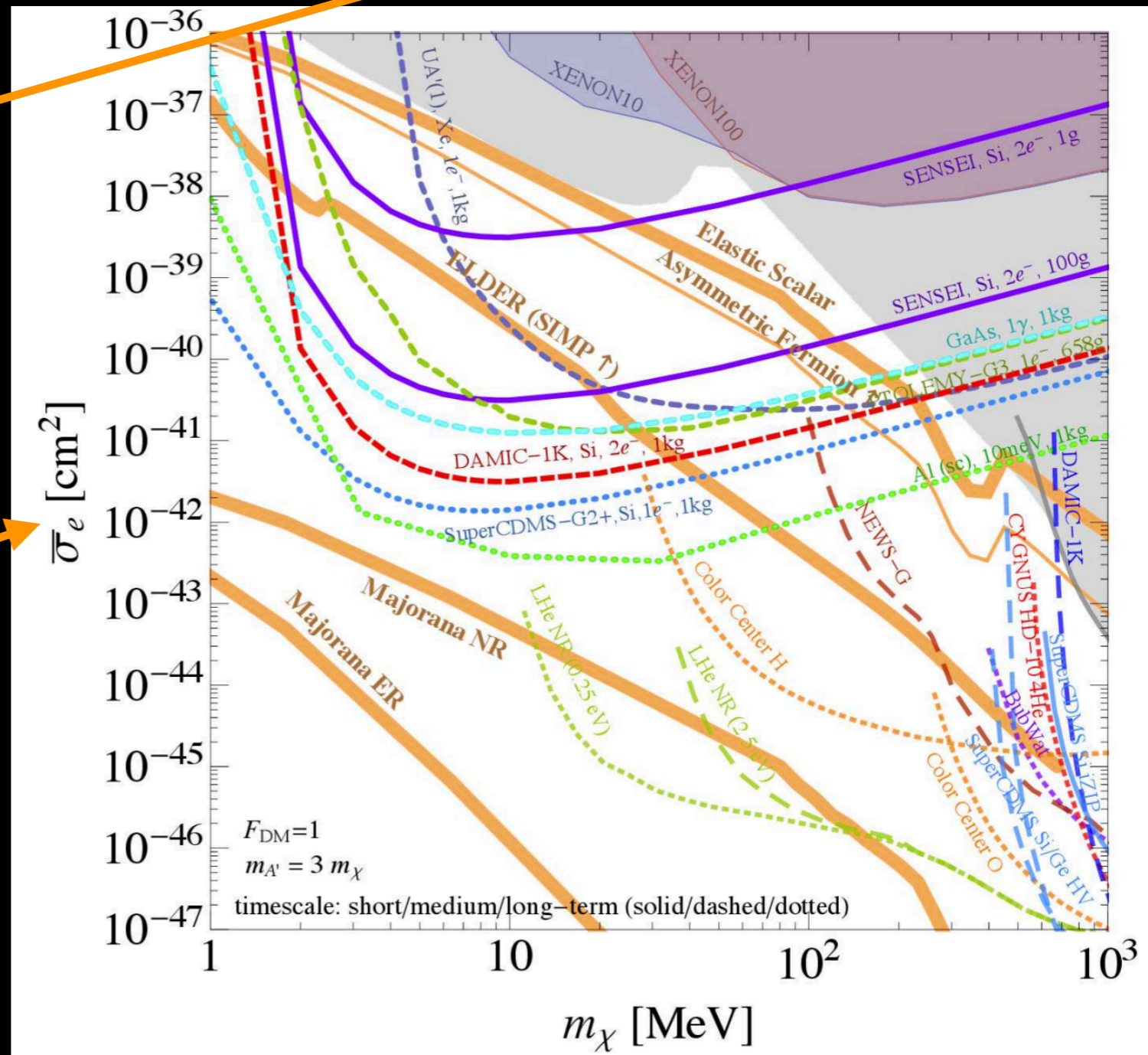
$$\frac{dR}{d \ln E_R} \sim N_T \Delta T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \frac{\bar{\sigma}_e}{8\mu^2} \int q dq |f_{ion}^{nl}|^2 |F_{DM}(q)|^2 \int_{v_{min}}^{\text{inf}} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv$$

# Fit electron recoil rate to experimental data to understand DM parameter space

$$\frac{dR}{d \ln E_R} \sim N_T \Delta T \frac{\rho_\chi}{m_\chi} \frac{\bar{\sigma}_e}{8\mu^2} \int q dq |f_{ion}^{nl}|^2 |F_{DM}(q)|^2 \int_{v_{min}}^{inf} \frac{f(v)}{v} dv$$

Particle physics information enters here

DM - electron interaction strength



# Example Dark Matter Studies

In 2019 I published a paper where I studied Inelastic dark matter at fixed target & collider experiments

PHYSICAL REVIEW D **99**, 115001 (2019)

## Revisiting the dark photon explanation of the muon anomalous magnetic moment

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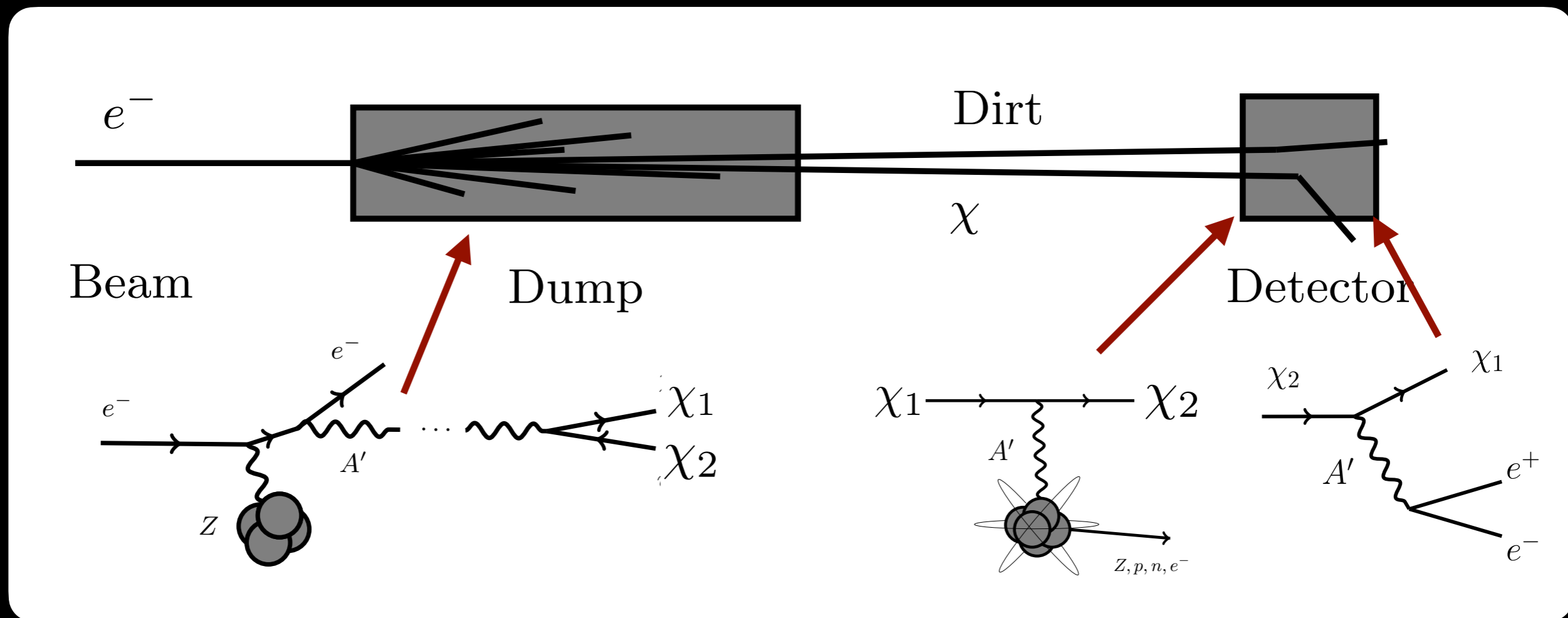
(Received 13 March 2019; published 3 June 2019)

A massive  $U(1)'$  gauge boson known as a “dark photon” or  $A'$ , has long been proposed as a potential explanation for the discrepancy observed between the experimental measurement and theoretical determination of the anomalous magnetic moment of the muon ( $g_\mu - 2$ ) anomaly. Recently, experimental results have excluded this possibility for a dark photon exhibiting exclusively visible or invisible decays. In this work, we revisit this idea and consider a model where  $A'$  couples inelastically to dark matter and an excited dark sector state, leading to a more exotic decay topology we refer to as a semivisible decay. We show that for large mass splittings between the dark sector states this decay mode is enhanced, weakening the previous invisibly decaying dark photon bounds. As a consequence,  $A'$  resolves the  $g_\mu - 2$  anomaly in a region of parameter

DM is accompanied by heavier dark sector particle

# Dark sector connected to SM via new force carrier called dark photon

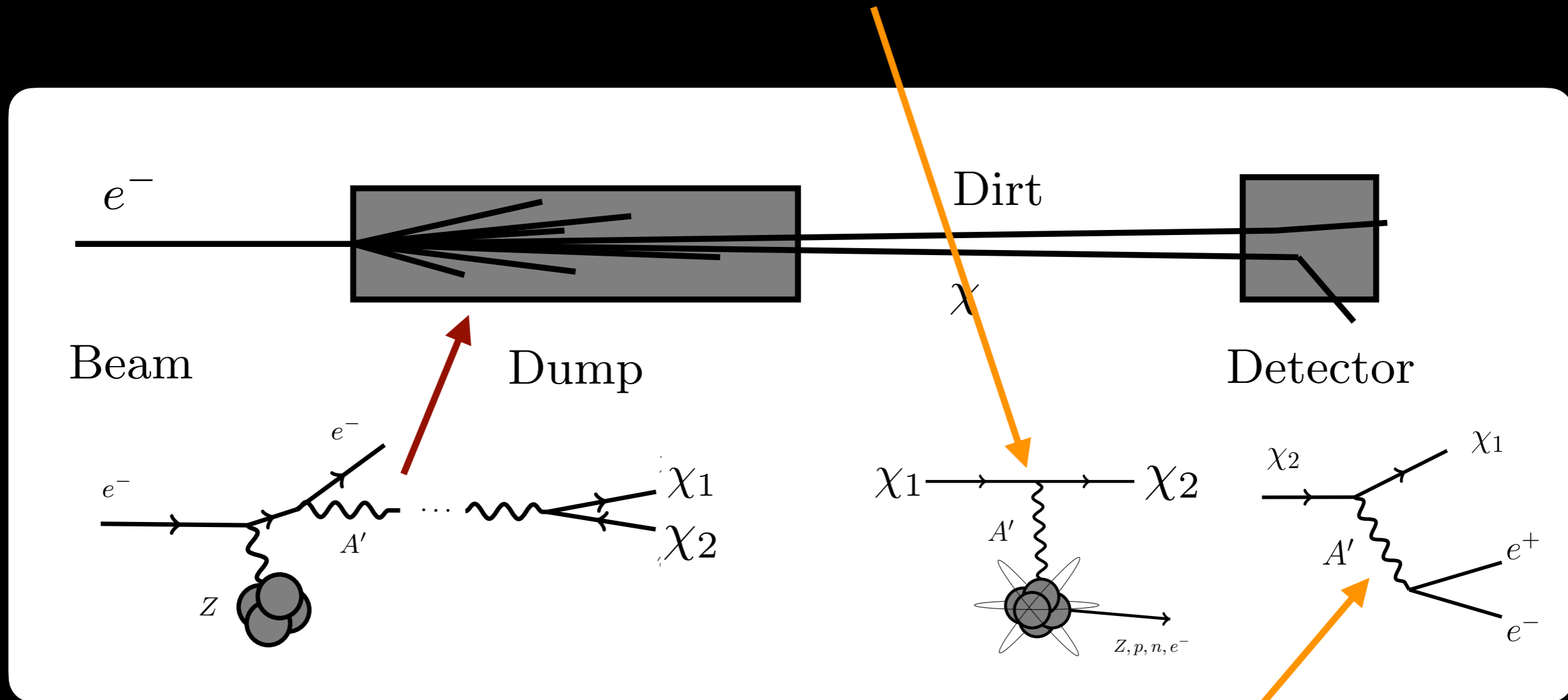
Dark photon is produced in proton & electron fixed target experiments and decays to inelastic dark matter inside experiment



Dark photon is produced in fixed target experiments and decays to inelastic dark matter inside experiment

DM and heavier dark sector state travel to detector

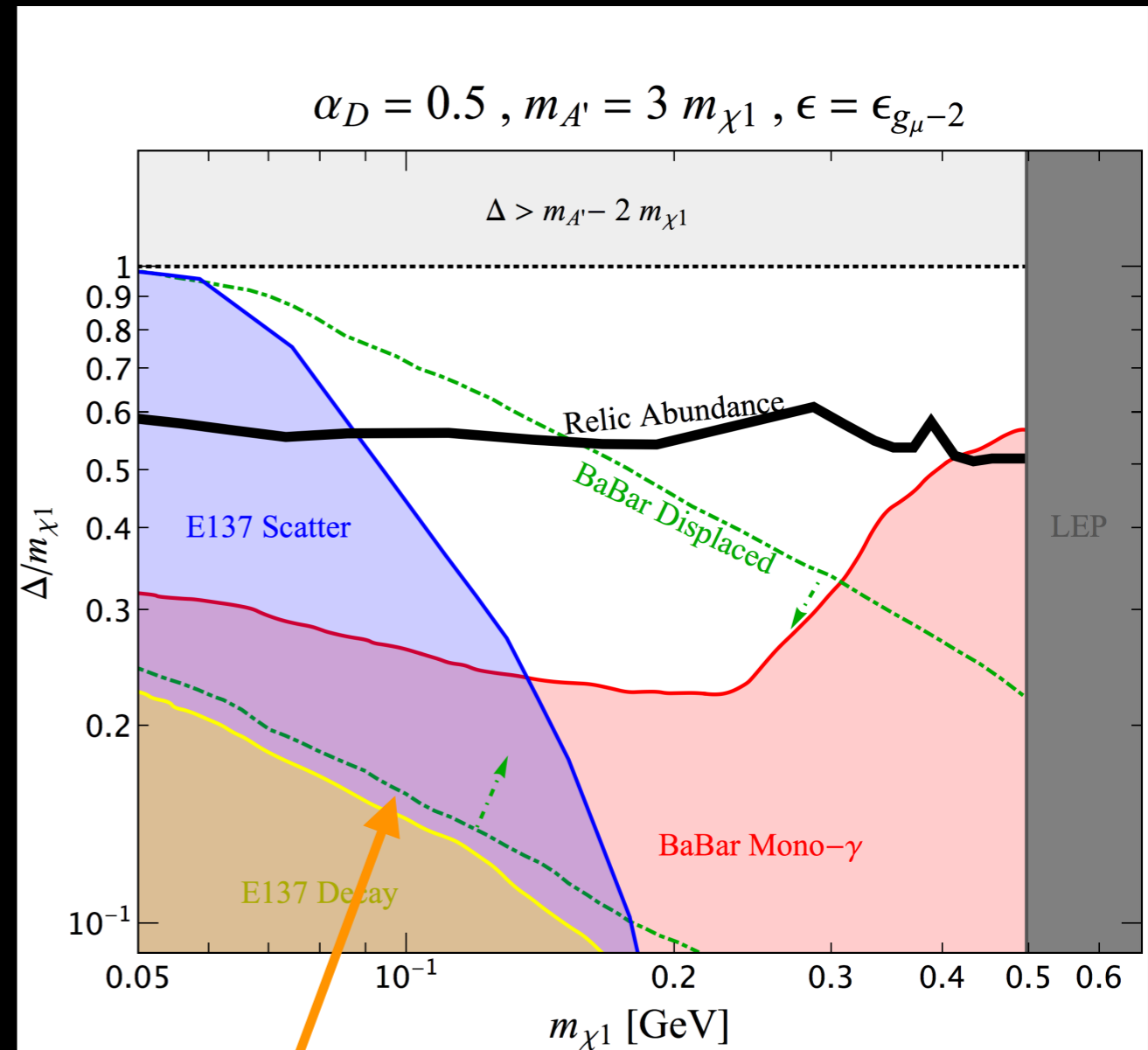
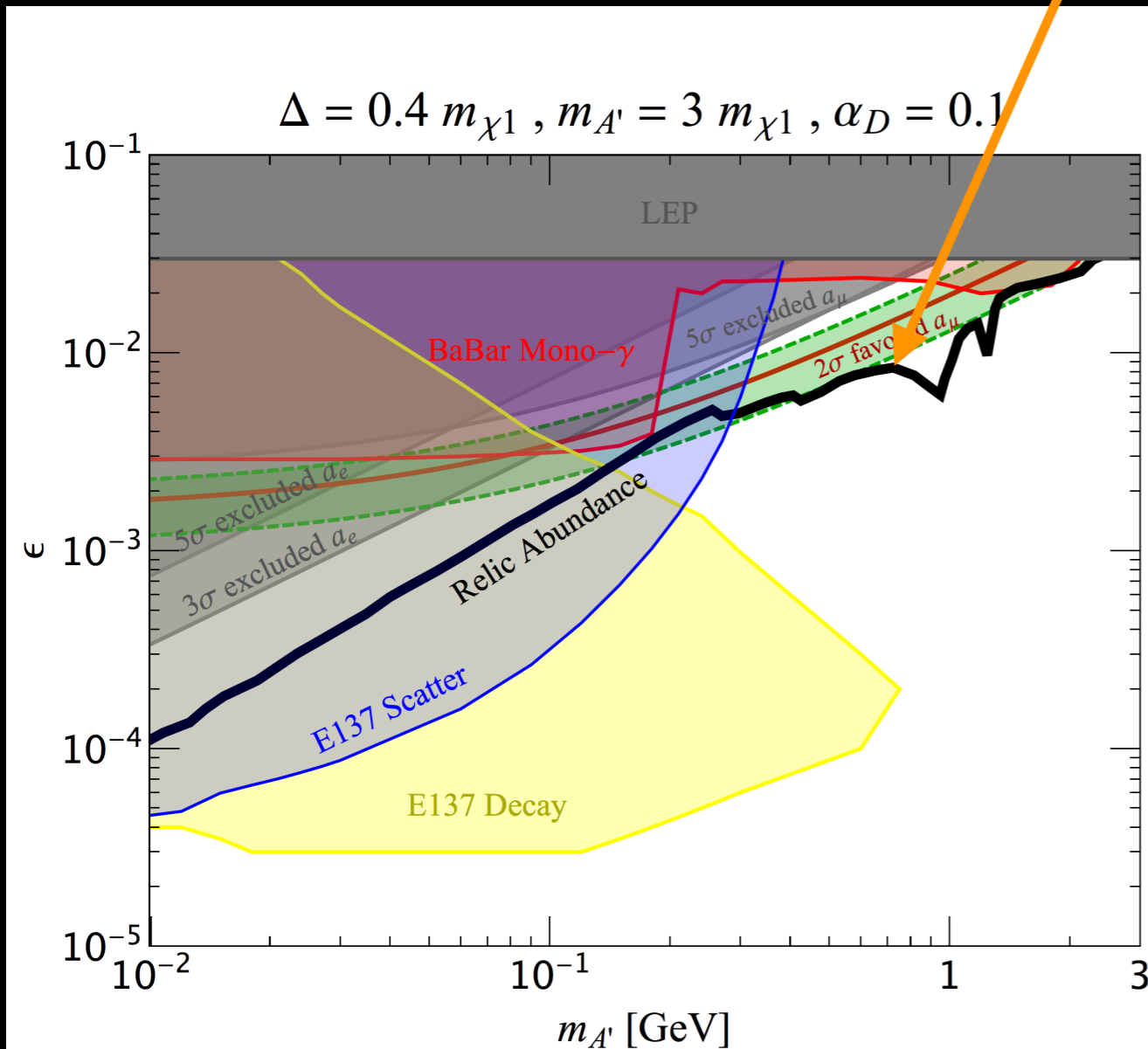
**- DM can scatter with SM inside detector**



**- heavy state can decay to DM and SM particles inside detector**

# Experimental constraints on this model

## Relic density calculation compared to data



Theory computations compared to accelerator experiment data

# Follow-up work

## Calculated quantum corrections on the light dark matter relic density process

### Radiative Corrections to Light Thermal Pseudo-Dirac Dark Matter

Gopolang Mohlabeng,<sup>1,2,\*</sup> Adreja Mondol,<sup>1,†</sup> and Tim M.P. Tait<sup>1,‡</sup>

<sup>1</sup>*Department of Physics and Astronomy, University of California, Irvine, CA 92697, USA*

<sup>2</sup>*Department of Physics, Simon Fraser University, Burnaby, BC, V5A 1S6, Canada*

(Dated: May 16, 2024)

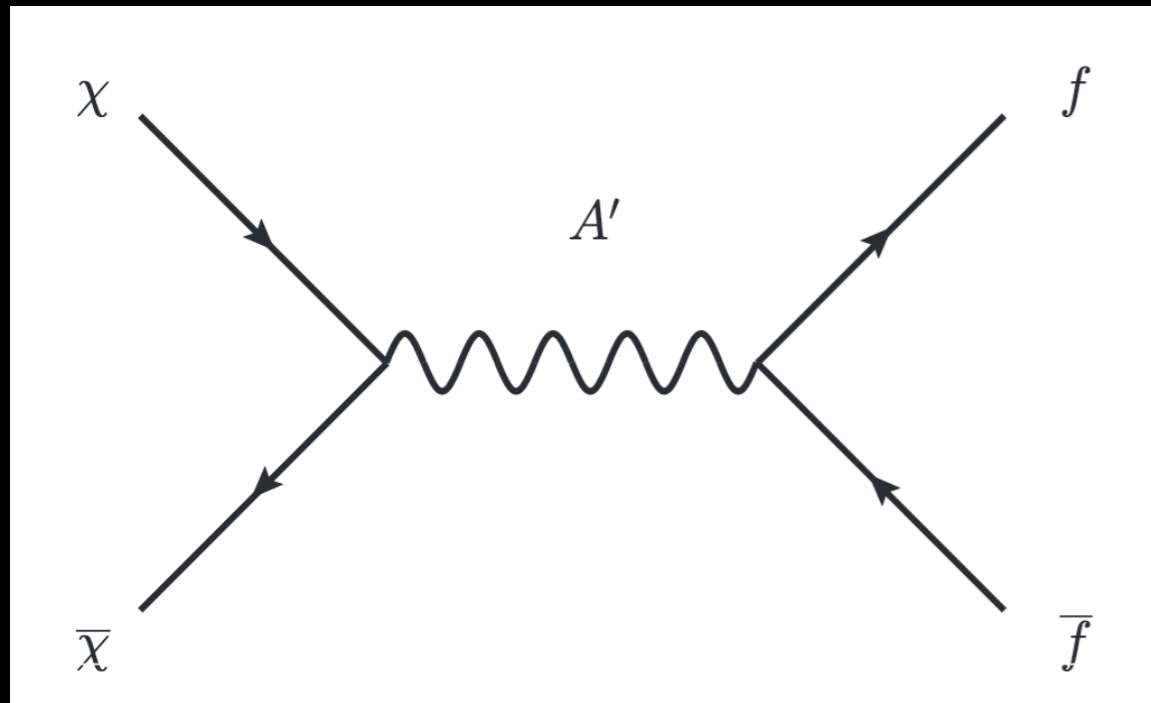
Light thermal dark matter has emerged as an attractive theoretical possibility and a promising target for discovery at experiments in the near future. Such scenarios generically invoke mediators with very small couplings to the Standard Model, but moderately strong couplings within the dark sector, calling into question theoretical estimates based on the lowest order of perturbation theory. As an example, we focus on a scenario in which (pseudo)-Dirac fermion dark matter is connected to the standard model via a dark photon charged under a new  $U(1)'$  extension of the standard model, and we investigate the impact of the next-to-leading order corrections to annihilation and scattering. We find that radiative corrections can significantly impact model predictions for the relic density and scattering cross-section, depending on the strength of the dark sector coupling and ratio of the dark matter to mediator mass. We also show why factorization into the yield parameter  $Y$  typically presented in literature leads to imprecision. Our results are necessary to accurately map experimental searches into the model parameter space and assess their ability to reach thermal production targets.

Understand how these corrections impact the relic density

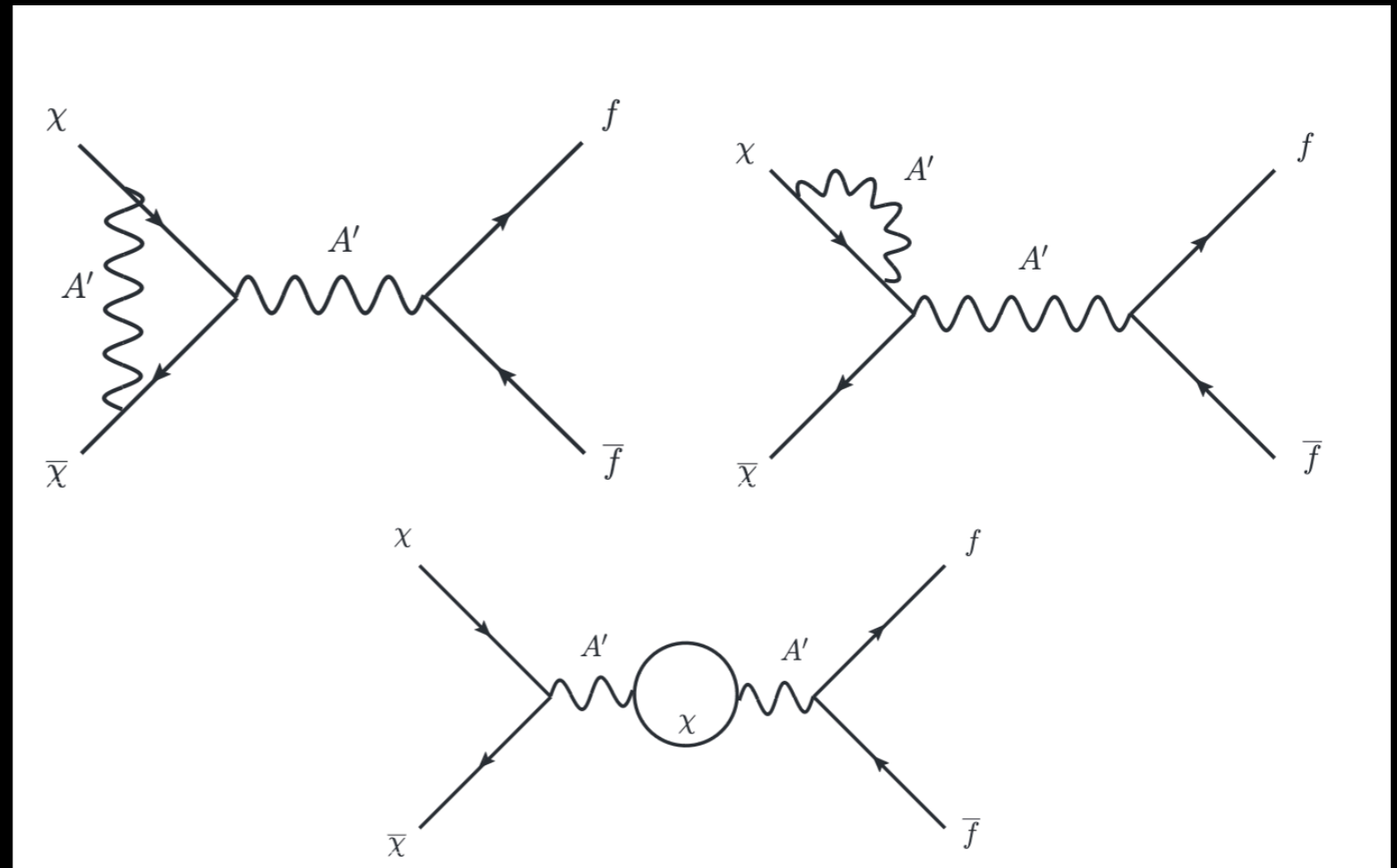


# Quantum corrections on dark matter relic density

## Leading diagram

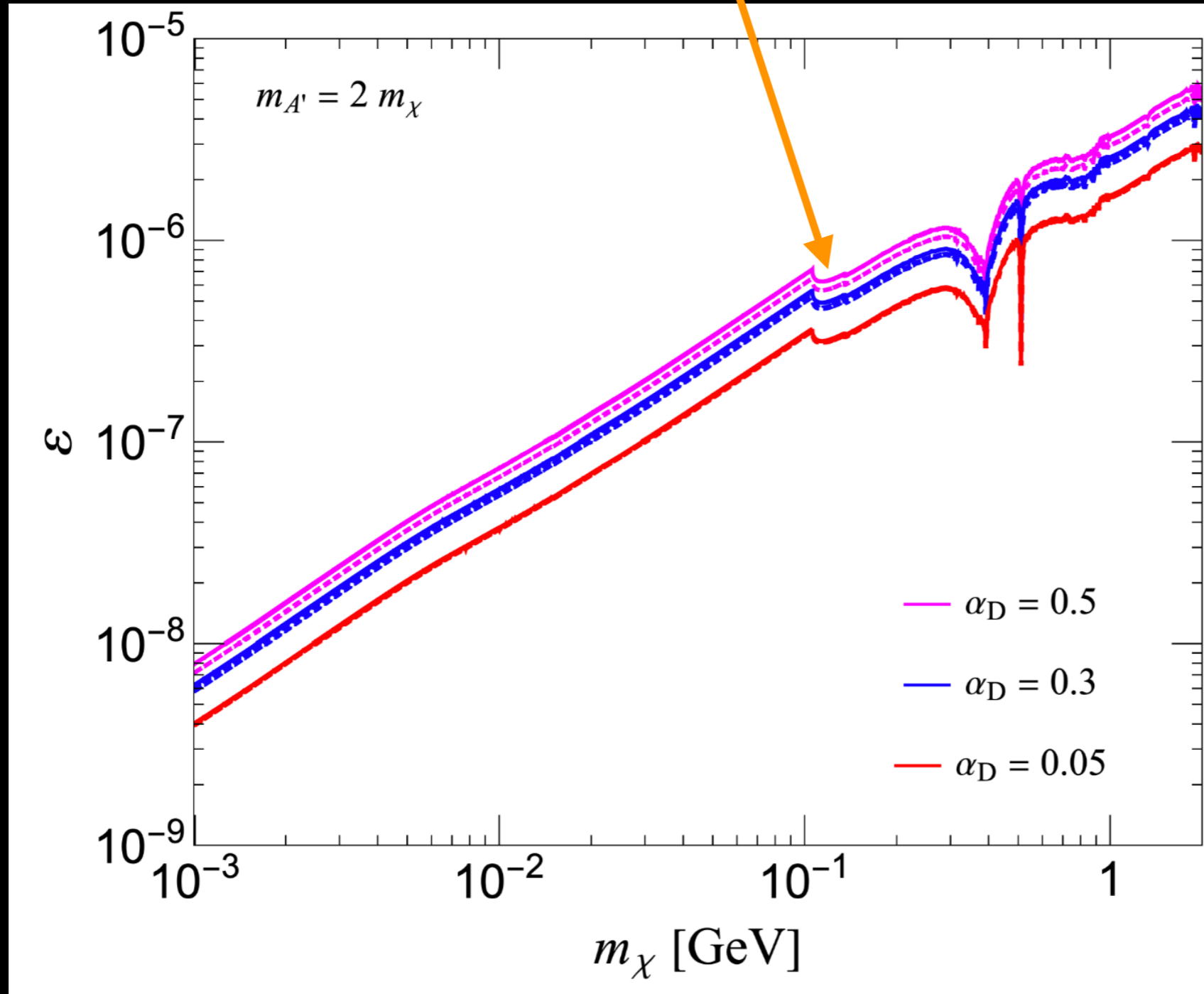


## Quantum corrections



# Quantum corrections on dark matter relic density

## Relic density calculation compared to data



**Small changes  
from quantum  
corrections to the  
dark matter  
process**

## Recap: lecture 2

- Cosmological abundance and production of dark matter
- Calculation and Understanding of Relic density from Freeze-out
- Methods of detecting dark matter

### **Indirect detection**

### **Production at colliders/Accelerators**

### **Dark matter direct detection**

- Example light dark matter models

Questions?

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